



SPRING SPORTS REVIEW

Tennis, lacrosse, baseball and soccer all come oh so close

16-17

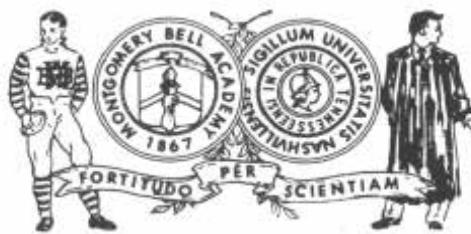
ALL SCHOOL READ REVEALED

Katherine Boo takes us on a journey through Mumbai's underbelly



3

THE BELL RINGER



Montgomery Bell Academy

4001 Harding Road Nashville, TN 37205

30 May 2013

Vol. LXIX, No. 6

A LEGEND LOST, A SPIRIT REMEMBERED

Honoring Mr. Tate

By Sam Weien
Asst. News Editor

The passing of Mr. Tate has been a touchstone for a thousand different emotions within our community. We can look at Mr. Tate and take away so many lessons – loyalty, dedication, craftsmanship or people skills – but the one characteristic that stood out about the way Mr. Tate led his life was that everything he did was rooted in service.

To know Mr. Tate was to know the importance of a personable nature and hospitality. His dedication to the Southern Bell Forum may be the most obvious example. He spared no expense to make the tournament by far the most pleasurable and comfortable for its competitors. He was a gifted host, and what is a great host but a servant for the masses? Hospitality is an effort fundamentally rooted in the idea that improving the lives of others, even in the slightest, is the overall goal of life. Someone of Mr. Tate's bottomless talent could have treated the people around him as inconsequential and given them nothing but bitterness, but instead he opened his heart and asked nothing in return.

To his students Mr. Tate's delicate touch came from a desire to see improvement in every student, not just excellence in his debaters. With the knowledge that speech is the essence of his vision of service, his mission was to sow those oats far and wide to make the world a more helpful, talkative place. He built a class that made flexible speakers. It blurred the line between



SHARING A LAUGH: Mr. Tate kept Coach K laughing

polite conversation and formal speech to the point that it became impossible to stop his influence on the way we talked and behaved in everyday life. We found ourselves using great cadence when giving directions or asking nicely for a chicken patty with good inflection. That dual influence, the politeness with the oratory was characteristic of the way he helped his students toward his vision of an ideal public speaker- one that leaves you unaware of the fact that he is "public speaking" at all.

His students learned from Mr.

Tate the finer points of argumentation, body language and rhetoric in the name of communication. Communication is ultimately relaying information so that it may help another. The need to help others in some way was a common thread in the every part of Mr. Tate's life. He was a unique example for the school to follow on the spirit of service – Southern and traditional while still understanding and adjusting to the modern (he came to love news updates from his iPhone in recent years). He understood basic facts of human interaction as well as

anyone on this campus, so well that they underpinned his mastery of a special kind of charity, one that never condescends but understands and abides in the needs of others.

The way Mr. Tate navigated life with the twin pillars of communication and hospitality made him an important guide for this campus. He lovingly critiqued every assembly speech given here in the last three decades, making sure that the way we express ideas here never sank below his standard. He also instilled in this community the idea that a great communicator is a great listener, one that can bridge the gap between two ideas of the truth.

Over his career William Woods Tate meant something different to everyone he met, as Representative Terri Sewell's touching eulogy on the floor of Congress demonstrated. Her emotional account of Mr. Tate's life was a testament to his far-reaching positive influence, but it also displayed just how long Mr. Tate had crusaded for others to find the dignity of speech. We as a community should take note not just of his well documented record as a coach, but of the spirit of service which drove him to spend his time building young men into natural speakers. Building communicators to build a better MBA and a nicer world community. One that observed the importance of manners and the value of a good Goo-Goo Cluster.

It is impossible to overstate the positive influence Mr. Tate had on his school and his students. He will be dearly missed by all.

Congratulations Class of 2013



TIL GABRIEL BLOWS HIS HORN: The seniors represent 57 different colleges

McLean Hudson
News Editor

The time has come at last for the Class of 2013 and its fearless leader Mark Lowe to ride off into the West. After a semester of fighting for the glorious shirttail revolution, we have decided to hang up our Wallabees and call it a day. It seems like it was only yesterday that we were a cavalcade of short, excitable strangers and now only William Yang fits that description. We lost some along the way to be sure – TFC, Tom Dodson, Mohammad. Wait, is Mohammed still in our class? Who knew? It's hard to look at out list of accomplishments and come away with any other conclusion: We built a wall boys, we built a wall.

>>SENIORS, 12

IN THIS ISSUE

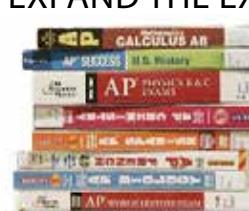
HOW DOES IT FEEL?

D'Angelo
and the
birth of Alt-
R&B



17

EXPAND THE EXAMS



6

More APs
may make
MBA more
competitive

School pursuing India exchange program

By Davis Lovvorn
Staff Ambassador

In addition to the recently established exchanges with the Raffles School in Singapore and Beijing Number Four in China, MBA is now considering adding an exchange with another school in Asia - the Daly College of Indore in India.

"India is a smart connection for us," said Mr. Gioia. "It is a country of extremes, with its population dynamics, class system, religion and finance, especially with its poverty and wealth."

Mr. Gioia said that he became interested in the project after befriending the school's principal.

The school in consideration is the Daly College of Indore located in central India. Founded in 1885, the school is one of the nation's finest, boasting many of the same classes we take here at MBA. The school has an attractive campus, complete with a Taj Mahal-style main building, a lush green lawn adorned with flowers, dorms and even a natatorium.

Although discussions are being



COURTESY OF DALY COLLEGE WEBSITE

PASSAGE TO INDIA: *The Daly School has been announced as MBA's new exchange*

held between the two schools, the exchange is yet to be finalized. "We're working on it," said Mr. Gioia

The potential exchange helped to inform the selection of this year's all-school read, *Behind the Beautiful Forevers*. This book, written by Katharine Boo,

depicts life in a slum in inner-city Mumbai, one of the largest cities in a country with a population of well over one billion.

While the exchange is not guaranteed, Mr. Gioia believes that barring unforeseen obstacles, the program will begin next year.

Department News

Departments wrap year up, prepare students for summer programs

By Aaron Kaplan
Staff Writer

Fine Art Department News:

In the area of visual arts, MBA has been successful in gaining local publicity. Jack Coyle, one of fifty-nine MBA students who participated, earned three Gold awards in painting at the 2012-2013 Scholastic Art Competition. Galen Bullington and Mr. Michael Griffin earned the right to participate in the prestigious "10 and 2" art show at the Two Moon Gallery in Nashville, and Mr. Griffin was named one of two finalists. Jay Shackleford and Lucas Littlejohn each received significant recognition at the Congressional Art Show.

Eleven visual arts students will attend art programs this summer courtesy of the Wilson Grants. Endada proved to be successful yet again, despite complications caused by the rain.

The music department continues to impress with its regular concerts. The Spring Concert on May 15th featured a stellar collection of music performed by a great variety of musical groups - orchestra, jazz band, and choir. The theater department finished up Student-Directed One Acts and is looking forward to participating in the musical "Anything Goes" in collaboration with Harpeth Hall this fall.

The fine art department is very much looking forward to the new renovations to come in the Davis building, as the department looks to further its role in the MBA experience.

English Department News: Inman Majors visited MBA as this year's visiting writer and spent time with classes and students along with community guests at his book reading. Speaking of books, Dr. Tarkington has received a publishing contract for his novel, which will be

published by Algonquin Books during the fall of either 2014 or 2015.

The fiction and poetry contests were both very successful, with Nathan Fouts winning the fiction contest and Henry Rogers winning the poetry contest. Harrison Kidd's (8th Grade) poem received a Scholastic Writing Award.

Netherlands; Mr. Gaither, London; Sr. Kamm, Spain; and Sr. Paolicchi, Colombia. Ms Zhang and Herr Daugherty will each be traveling with the programs in which MBA students are enrolled. Mr. Ellery and Mr. Berry will both work on their master's degrees and Dr. West will instruct a beginning-French class for eighth graders.

History Department News: History teachers are enjoying their new homes in the new dining building and looking forward to putting back up the maps that once hung on the walls of the Carter Building. This summer, students will travel on Wilson History Grants to places such as Great Britain, Colorado, Georgetown, and Rome. History faculty will also be busy. Dr. Boyd will spend time researching at the National Archives in D.C. while Mr. Lundgren learns about colonial New England. Mr. Norton and Mr. McMurray will both be hard at work earning graduate degrees.

There are several history-related service projects to think about next fall. Those are the Glen Leven and the Fort Negley Park service projects.

Language Department News: After placing very well on the national language exams, both students and faculty get ready for language-oriented summers. Many language students will travel on language immersion programs on the Wilson Language Grants, which account for \$250,000 of language summer programs. Twenty-eight students will travel internationally to countries of their language, while sixteen students will travel to Middlebury College to participate in an immersion program.

Over the summer, language teachers will also be enjoying language experiences. Dr. Gaffney will enjoy the

Math Department News: The MBA Mathletics squad continued to place very well at the Interscholastic Math League and State competitions recently. The Mathcounts team captured the state championship and MBA 8th grader Tony Huang and Tennessee Coach Maggie Qian earned a trip to the MATHCOUNTS National Competition. This summer, students will be traveling around the country on mathematics-related summer programs courtesy of the Wilson Mathematics Grants.

Dr. Shackleford, the past department chair, will retire at the end of this school year, having served as an MBA faculty member since 1997.

Science Department News: The Big Red Science Olympiad squad, after a great performance at the state competition, traveled to Dayton, Ohio for the weekend beginning May 16th to compete in the national competition. They performed well at the national level.

This summer, students will travel and participate in science programs across the country (one student to the Caribbean) courtesy of the Wilson Science and Engineering Grants.

Students again score impressive language test results

By Wells Hamilton
Features Editor

The language students at MBA participate annually in several language contests, typically posting strong results at the state and national level. This year, students have many outstanding performances to report.

In Latin, MBA reported 105 Gold Medals (*Summa Cum Laude*), and 71 Silver Medals (*Maxima Cum Laude*). Perfect papers in Latin I were awarded to Tony Huang, Warner Lamar and John Carey. Perfect papers in Latin II were awarded to Wes Richardson, Hunter Hamilton, Joseph Downey, Tony Ding and Conner Gray.

One perfect paper in Latin III was awarded to Tarun Mallipeddi, who scored 3 perfect papers in a row. Nilay Patel and Jake Simons received letters of commendation in the Classical Association of the Middle West and South Translation Competition.

In French I, Lawrence Rogers placed 6th in the nation. In French II, Wesley Tseng placed 8th in the nation, Aaron Kaplan placed 9th and Harry Stewart placed 10th. In French III, John Lafranchise placed highest with an 8th place finish in the state. In French IV, Lucas Littlejohn placed highest out of MBA students with a 9th place finish in state.

In German II, William Snow placed 8th in the State and Clay McLemore placed 11th. In German III, Keon Cleary placed 5th in the state and Braden Welborn placed 17th. In German IV, Chris Habermann placed 3rd in the state.

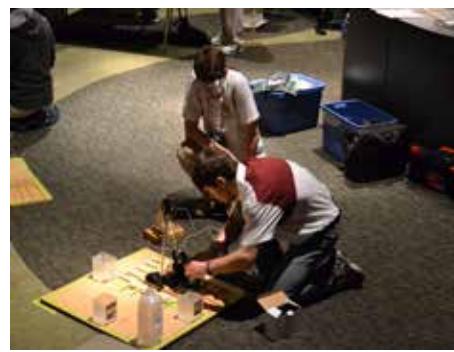
In Spanish I, Alex Boone finished 2nd in the state and in the 99th National Percentile. Wes Richardson also finished in the 99th National Percentile with a 4th place finish in the State. Jesse Turner placed 10th in the state, Grant Green placed 12th and Carter Lovvorn, Jackson Rich and Nicholas Heim all tied for 13th in the State.

In Spanish II, seven students placed in the 99th Percentile: Mac Mackey (2nd in the State), Matt Miccioli (4th in the State), Thomas Marosz (5th in the State), Andrew Zhu (5th in the State), Connor Griffin (6th in the State), William Holbrook (11th in the State) and Sam Hurd (15th in the State).

In Spanish III, five students finished in the 99th percentile nationally: Hunter Crabtree (4th in the State), Clark Hooks (5th in the State), Ryan Owen (7th in the State), Davis Lovvorn (10th in the State) and Will McFadden (13th in the State). In the Spanish III bilingual section, Diego Martinez and German Martinez both finished in the 99th percentile nationally with Diego taking 1st in the State and German taking 4th. In Spanish IV, Alan Liang was in the 99th percentile nationally, placing 14th in the State.



REPRESENT REPRESENT: The Science Olympiad team competed hard at the national competition. Raising the flag over Dayton (left), late night festivities (top right), and serious competition (bottom right).



COURTESY OF DR. MARRO

For Science! Science Olympiad team advances to nationals

By Michael Milam
Staff Writer

For the fourth consecutive year, the Science Olympiad team advanced to the national competition. The Big Red Science Olympiad Division C Team competed in the State Science Olympiad Competition at University of Tennessee, Knoxville, winning the competition and advancing to nationals despite fierce competition from many schools including Hume-Fogg, MLK and Ravenwood.

Individually, MBA competitors did well, with five first-place finishes in Astronomy (Henry Ingram, Michael Milam), Boomilever (Sam Hurd, Sam Papel), Fermi Questions (Hunter Tidwell, Adam Bowman), Materials Science (John Triplett, Kevin Wang) and Water Quality (Henry Ingram, Sam Hurd). MBA placed in the top six in 21 of the 23 events at the

state competition and easily won the state title.

Following the Big Red's resounding success at the state competition, the team - led by seniors Adam Bowman, Kevin Wang, Hunter Tidwell, Chris Habermann, Tom Bu, and Hamilton Millwee - competed very well at the Science Olympiad National Tournament in Dayton, Ohio at Wright State University. The team, along with faculty leaders Dr. Dickens, Cdr. Carr, Mr. Bullington and Dr. Marro, enjoyed everything Dayton had to offer, from the United States Air Force Museum to the Buffalo Wild Wings.

In the competition, MBA had many top twenty finishers. The team placed second in Green Generation (Ben Chen and Harry Stewart), fifth in Boomilever (Sam Hurd), eighth in Chem Lab (Kevin Wang and Hunter Tidwell), eighth in Experimental Design (Chris Habermann,

Kevin Wang, Tom Bu), tenth in Technical Problem Solving (Chris Habermann and John Higham), seventeenth in Fermi Questions (Adam Bowman and Hunter Tidwell), eighteenth in Water Quality (Sam Hurd and Henry Ingram) and eighteenth in Write-It Do-It (Sam Papel and Matt Miccioli).

The team overall placed 36th out of the 60 teams present at the competition.

This was the team's fourth consecutive trip to the national competition as well as its fourth consecutive state championship, and the team looks to improve its standings for next year. Dr. Dickens said, "We did a great job to place so many events in the top 20, and we are looking forward to an even stronger finish next year when we go for our 5th consecutive state championship and national level competition."

All school read: *Behind the Beautiful Forevers*

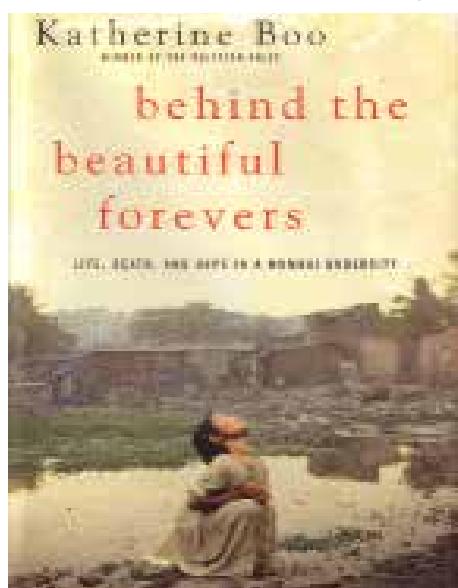
By Matt Miccioli
Staff Writer

MBA's next all school read will be *Behind the Beautiful Forevers* by Katherine Boo.

Winning the 2012 National Book Award for nonfiction, the work is the result of three years of reporting by Katherine Boo. Using three thousand public records to shed light on the lives of the Annawadians, Boo illustrates the money changing and cyclical lethargy of the economy, analyzing specific local policy and legislation.

Formerly a writer for the Washington Post, she won a Pulitzer Prize for Public Service for her coverage of group homes for the mentally impaired in 2000. Boo has also contributed to the New Yorker since 2001, winning the 2002 Sidney Hillman award for advancing the cause of social justice for her article "After Welfare" and the 2004 National Magazine Award for Feature Writing.

The nonfiction story is set in the



Cover: The next summer read focuses on poverty in India
impoverished settlement of Annawadi near an airport in Mumbai. The work focuses on the lives of Abdul, a teenage boy, and Asha, a local schoolteacher. The home of 3,000 people packed into 335 huts on half an acre, Annawadi is

sandwiched between several luxury hotels, making it the prime location for garbage picking. Buying recyclable waste and then reselling it to recycling plants, Abdul finds an entrepreneurial niche among the many slum dwellers trying to scrape by, following a dream of upward mobility and the desire to move out of Annawadi. Asha sees political manipulation as her way to prosperity and escape, enabling her daughter to attend college.

Exposing the dysfunction of the Indian justice system, Abdul and his family are falsely accused of provoking a neighbor's suicide with no evidence. Police officers, through bribes, and even the enterprising Asha make attempts at the family's saved money as Abdul's trash business dissolves before their eyes. Boo puts forth few ideas and limits her influence in the storytelling to a brief note at the end. Instead, Boo allows Abdul's voice to drive the plot and provide societal critique, with his sentence in a juvenile detention center providing opportunity for deep personal reflection.

Business club year ends on high note

By Tarun Mallipendi
Opinions Editor

This school year marked the beginning of the Business Club. Founded by current junior Ben Barton, the club has mainly focused on competing in Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) competitions at the regional, state and even national level.

At the regional competition held at Aquinas College, Tarun Mallipendi placed third in Business Calculations, Ben Chen placed first in Computer Problem Solving, Clint Smith and Bevan Petrikin placed first in Management Decision Making, Drew Benson placed first in Sports Management and Rem Houghton placed first in Technical Problem Solving.

At the state competition held in the Chattanooga Convention Center, Ben Chen placed first and Clint Smith and Bevan Petrikin placed fifth in their respective events. Ben Chen will be attending the national convention in California this summer.

Ben Barton had the idea for this club over the summer while attending the Governor's School for Business and Computer Science. Many other participants competed in the FBLA events, and Ben saw the association as an avenue by which MBA students could learn about business.

In addition to achieving success in competitions, the Business Club is also offering internship opportunities to its members. The Travel Innovations Group, a travel industry tech startup, has offered paid internships to two MBA students, Clint Smith and Ben Barton, to help with marketing strategy, copy writing for hotels and programming for its website. Sam Jackson, class of 2000, is a prominent part of this startup and was instrumental in giving MBA students this opportunity.

Ideas for future growth of the club include the HackNashville competition next year, in which teams build programs through computer code in 48 hours and compete for prizes. Additionally, the Business Club will make use of the Innovation Room for future meetings and events next year.

The club expects continued growth throughout the next school year. There are high hopes for continued domination of the regional and state competitions next year, especially once the club attracts new members.

Ben Barton described the club's first year, saying, "We had an amazing year, and we are going into our second year with a ton of momentum. We hope that people will see the successes this club has achieved this year and want to become a part of our team."

Hidden (cinematic) treasure: *The movies in the library*



YOU NEVER COME SEE ME: Marlon and Will are waiting for you to pay them a visit in the library. The movies available in the library are a massively underused resource made available as a part of normal library service.

By Kang Huh
Staff Writer

From classics such as Mark Twain's *Huckleberry Finn* to Lynda Madaras' map of the male physiology in *What's Happening to My Body*, the Patrick Wilson Library undoubtedly has a diverse array of literary works. Yet the library's wide selection of movies often goes without notice. If you venture a little past Mrs. Klausner's "No-Fly Zone" and take a left, you will find yourself in the magical realm that is the movie shelf. This cornucopia of motion pictures contains a vast expanse of genres; whether you are looking for a documentary or just a source of general entertainment, it's likely that

the library will have it. Classics include *The Wizard of Oz* and *The Karate Kid*. In addition to the classics, the library has a large collection of plays as well. Some familiar names you might recognize include Tennessee Williams' *A Streetcar Named Desire*, a must-see reenactment famously starring acting legend Marlon Brando. Another play worth watching is Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*, quite popular in its heyday in the mid-20th century.

If theatrical works and old classics are not what you would choose for your own enjoyment, the library has a selection of modern movies as well. You might be interested in checking out new hits such as *Percy Jackson and*



the Olympians, but the library offers action-packed thrillers like *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*, a movie to inspire one's inner martial artist. Works such as *Beowulf* and *I am Legend* are also great choices if you don't want to spend time reading subtitles.

If you're the scholarly type, you're also in luck—the library has a large collection of documentaries as well. In high demand is the wildly popular biopic, *Lincoln*, which as the name suggests, is a detailed account of the life of President Abraham Lincoln, but you should also have a go at grittier documentaries like *Tsotsi*, a story of the South African street thugs, or even *Born into Brothels*, a comprehensive history of Calcutta's red-

light district.

From classic to zany, the library really does have an eclectic source of movies. If you're an aspiring critic or just another indiscriminate student looking for some entertainment over the weekend, the library's movie section is worth taking a browse through. You never know what you might find. Whether you get an action-packed selection like *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade* or the venerable classic *Casablanca*, you won't be disappointed.

History by the book

Current History in Ridley Wills' *Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete*.

By Aaron Kaplan
Staff Writer

Gentleman. Scholar. Athlete. was published in 2005. Since then, a new chapter in MBA's history has been written by current students, faculty, and community members. Let's take a look back to when this book was published and what life on the Hill was like then.

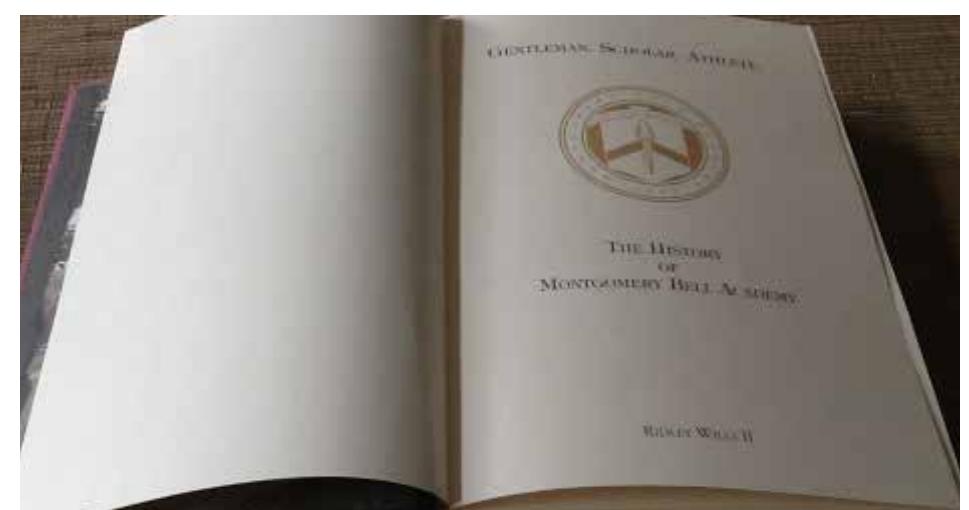
If you open *Gentleman. Scholar. Athlete.* to page iii, you will find an "Introduction: MBA Today." Written by Mr. Gioia to describe the Hill after the 2003-2004 school year, the introduction provides evidence that MBA is both very similar to what it was in 2004 and very different. Here are some comparisons:

Construction: During the 2003-2004 school year, MBA introduced its purchase of the 42nd Avenue property and the Long Mountain property. Since then, construction has been completed, and both properties play unique roles in the MBA experience. The 42nd Avenue property serves as an athletic facility for Junior School sports such as football, soccer,

lacrosse and baseball. The Long Mountain property is now home to a remarkable observatory and a natural, pristine area in which students and community members can canoe, enjoy the ropes course, and camp out.

Academics: At the time of this introduction, MBA boasted 21 National Merit Scholars - that number seems familiar. It was at this time that MBA appointed Dr. Marro as the Registrar. The senior class of '04 went on to attend 65 different colleges. The class of '13 will go on to attend 56 different colleges.

Other: It was during the '03-'04 school year that MBA began the tradition of the Vann Webb Founder's Day Race. In athletics that year, the Big Red took home two state championships (football and baseball) and beat Trinity (ranked #4 nationally at the time) in football that season. MBA's debate and theater programs both achieved national success. Service projects that we participate in today, such as Preston-Taylor and soup



HISTORY AS WE MAKE IT: Semi-current events in *Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete*

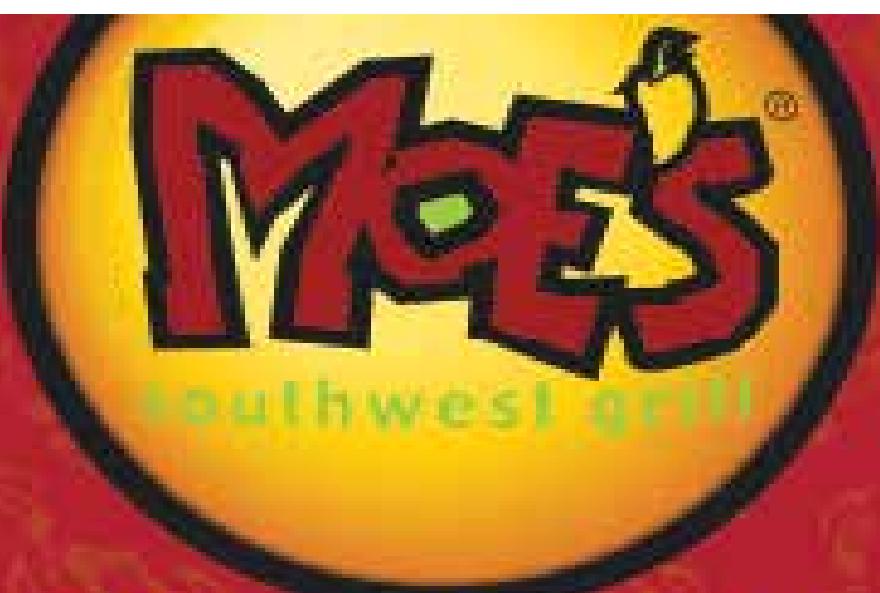
kitchen, were part of student life, as were exchange programs to schools such as Eton, Michaelhouse, and The King's School.

Things have changed on the Hill since 2004, but much of what we do now reflects the MBA experience of not

only 2003-2004, but many school years before that. To learn about the intriguing and significant history of Montgomery Bell Academy from 1867 to 2004, check out Ridley Wills II's book *Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete* from the library.

AARON KAPLAN/BR

**GENTLEMAN, SCHOLAR, ATHLETE IS AVAILABLE
IN THE LIBRARY.**



SCOTT PORTIS, MBA CLASS OF 1984
AND OWNER OF MOE'S, SAYS:

**ROLL, RED,
ROLL!**

BELLE MEADE:
4326 HARDING PIKE
(HILL CENTER)
615-383-7871

VANDERBILT:
2525 WEST END AVENUE
615-320-0001

WE CATER!
BIG AND SMALL EVENTS
CALL THE MOE'S
CATERING HOTLINE
615-715-3483



Curriculum Competition

To compete with public schools, increase AP courses

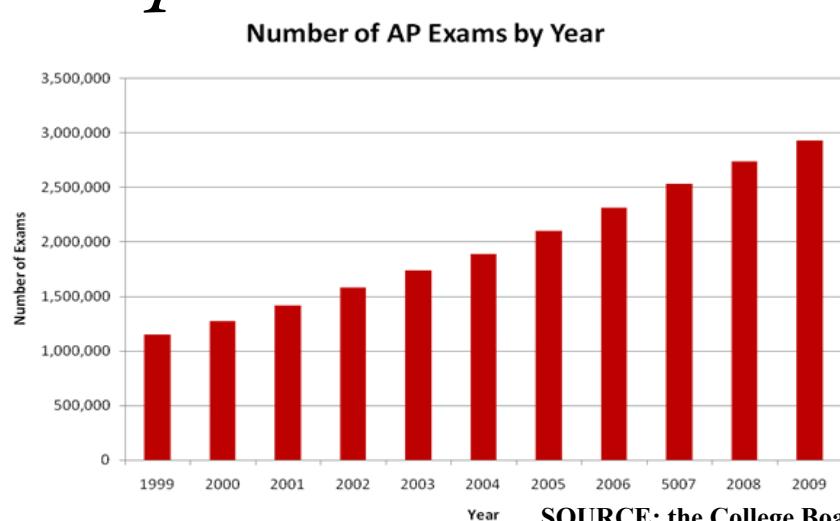
By Tarun Mallipeddi
Staff Writer

MBA's goal has always been to ensure the future of its students in preparation for college. Almost every aspect of the school is an exercise in college preparation. One area in which MBA is curiously lacking, however, is the restricted number of AP courses students are allowed to take until senior year.

Former Ravenwood student Ben Chen commented on the two schools' course loads, saying, "Public schools have a wider range of courses for students at all grade levels when compared to MBA." He went on to say that public school students are required to complete their academic credits during the school day, unlike MBA.

Thus, MBA clearly has the ability to put its students in an even stronger position by the end of their senior year if students were allowed to take more than one or two AP courses in their freshman and sophomore years. The more AP courses students take, the better their standing in the eyes of college admissions officers.

The greatest benefit of earlier



Race to the top: *The number of AP tests administered per year is rising faster than the population of students in America.*

and more AP courses is the leveling of the playing field relative to public school students who choose to take full advantage of their course offerings. Many public school students are allowed to take at least one AP their freshman year, typically Human Geography, and by junior year, the top-tier students are taking an AP-only course load.

Not only will MBA students look

better on their resumes, they will be even better prepared for college. AP courses are based on college curricula. With more AP courses under their belt, it will be even easier for MBA students to adjust to college life after high school.

Another benefit of more AP courses is the greater number of AP credits that students can earn. Younger students will be more motivated than many seniors

who check out during AP testing weeks with graduation so close. Increasing the number of AP courses students can take as underclassmen ensures better students coming out of MBA with more AP credits and better overall average scores on their tests.

Ultimately, MBA should add all the AP courses within reason, such as the second English AP, the Human Geography AP and the Psychology AP courses. Given demand, MBA may even be able to institute an Italian Language and Culture and Japanese Language and Culture program. Yet these two courses will certainly take more work to garner support than the first three.

The school is already adding the Microeconomics and Macroeconomics courses to the history department next year, so it is clear that the administration is making a move towards expanding its schedule relative to other schools. AP courses are an opportunity for students that the school cannot afford to squander.

EDITORIAL STAFF FOR VOL. LXX

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Wells Hamilton

ASSOCIATE EDITORS
Sam Weien
Aaron Kaplan

NEWS EDITORS
Tarun Mallipeddi
Davis Lovvorn

OPINIONS EDITOR
Matt Miccioli

FEATURES EDITOR
Ben Barton

ASST. FEATURES EDITOR
Nolan Spear

SPORTS EDITOR
Anthony Swenson

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
Will Glover

BUSINESS MANAGER
Matt Miccioli

FACULTY ADVISERS
Mr. Matt Hutton
Mrs. Anne Christeson

THE LOCAL TACO . COM
4501 murphy road, nashville + 146 pewitt drive, brentwood
615.891.3271 | 615.915.4666

Fresh. Casual. Local.

CATERING
SPECIAL EVENTS



THE BELL RINGER

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
McKay Proctor

ASSOCIATE EDITORS
John Mellow
George Swenson

NEWS EDITOR
McLean Hudson

FEATURES EDITOR
Wells Hamilton

SPORTS EDITOR
Andrew Karpos

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
Lucas Littlejohn

OPINIONS EDITORS
Chris Habermann
Tarun Mallipeddi

BUSINESS MANAGER
Sam Weien

FACULTY ADVISORS
Mr. Matt Hutton
Mrs. Anne Christeson

MEMBER, TENNESSEE HIGH SCHOOL PRESS

The Bell Ringer is a non-profit newspaper operated and published by and for the students of Montgomery Bell Academy, who are its intended audience. Views expressed in The Bell Ringer do not necessarily represent those held by the staff or school.

Letters to the Editor are encouraged, and can be delivered to the Bell Ringer office in the Lowry Building, the Faculty Advisors or the Editors, or sent to bellringer@montgomerybell.edu (simply type 'Bell Ringer' into the school email). These letters must be signed; The Bell Ringer neither publishes anonymous submissions of opinions or articles nor permits individuals to remain unidentified unless protected by other rules of confidentiality at MBA. Letters will be edited for length and clarity.

The staff of The Bell Ringer prepares all copy, headlines, and photographs at Montgomery Bell Academy. Tennessean/Gannett in Nashville, Tennessee, prints the paper.

Editorial

The sad decline of the three-sport athlete

One of the most constructive aspects of the Junior School is the ability to experience through a process of trial and error the embryonic stages of activities on the Hill. This of course includes the possibility and likelihood of being a three-sport athlete, a thespian, a journalist, and a mathlete (crobe) your 7th and 8th grade year. Throngs of microbes flock every year to the football sidelines, *Top of the Hill* meetings, and play tryouts. For the most part, participation in these sports swells to its all time high during the microbe years, when homework is light and outside engagements are cut down to a minimum (comparatively of course).

However, in High School this ability shrinks up, and the number of multiple sport athletes inevitably declines. The primary cause for this decrease is time. For a student, especially an MBA student, time is a commodity that is constantly in short supply. Clubs and extracurriculars begin to emerge and for many, athletics either take the back burner or are diminished to one specialty.

In many ways, Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete is a mandate, an expectation that is intrinsic to the MBA culture. Yet for many, the motto is more like an ideal. The basic struggle here is specialization versus balance. MBA offers a unique opportunity

for its students to excel in numerous fields; however, many students choose to specialize in order to excel to a greater extent. Some students decide to define their high school careers with one or two categories of involvement.

Is this pursuit of excellence a contradiction of the ideal? The short answer is no. The more complicated answer addresses the true nature of the motto. The motto itself isn't as broad and overarching as it may seem. It must be applied to the individual. For the Science Olympiad Champion, "athlete" may mean maintaining a standard level of fitness. For the Football Star, "scholar" may mean being prompt and neat with his assignments and striving to do his best with every class. For the thespian, the ideal may simply be a call to be conscious of other aspects of student life past his specialty.

Graduation is the perfect time to consider such questions about Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete especially when looking at a graduation senior class. The diversity of interests is what gives a class its uniqueness. Although having every student participate in every activity would be a perfect fulfillment of the motto, this depth and uniqueness would be lost. Therefore, the student should be encouraged to define Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete on a personal

Do you like to write, take photos or work on graphic design?

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Contact Wells Hamilton if you are interested



Juniors yearn to cut lunch line

By Ben Barton
and Wells Hamilton
Frightened Inmates Number 4 and 5

As summer finally rushes forward to meet the Junior Class (two days early if you're a special AP History snowflake) and all that's been learned over the past year flies down the great garbage disposal of the summer months, **Luke Cochran's** disease, a bacterial infection, finds itself unable to survive in environments of great heat or heavy muddin'. **Ben Yahnian** trades in the time-honored red pants for the even more time-honored red shorts. Huddled masses of sophomores are seen fearfully emerging from the library into the sunlight. Seniors sit around talking about how great King's Island was, or how much they're going to miss spaghetti. Eighth graders issue hushed congratulations to each other on finally making it to high school (where the good times roll). Yes it is indeed nearly summer on the hill.

The Bell Ringer decided to spend this final issue of the 2012-2013 year taking a look at what rising seniors will be doing during their holiday. Recently, we happened to see **Clark Hooks** sprinting down West End wearing nothing but jean shorts and a pair of Beats (by Dre) (swag) headphones and cradling a sledge hammer apparently repeating the SAT vocabulary list backwards, in Spanish. Conversely, we caught up to **Harrison Davies** (homophone for **Harrison Davis** and commander of the Roll Red Army) in the hills of North Carolina, wearing coveralls over his lacrosse uniform and playing banjo to the treetops. **Blake Patton** was seen at Brentwood Tanning, beginning a pre-pre-oil session for his job lifeguarding this summer. **Tejas Reddy**, eager to cut out the middleman,



HE PULLS: *Davis, recently appointed Duke of Edinburgh, claiming the spoils of victory. She remembered his name!*

retreated into the rural Midwest to find a Hollywood Video to buy. If unable, he has designs to live inside of a Redbox for the duration of the summer. **Ridley Wills** plans to take his glasses to St. Petersburg over the summer in order to test them against Russian chess masters. **David Spencer** intends to use the summer to bond with his spirit animal, the Giant Californian Sea Cucumber. **Brandon Carpenter** and **Josh Rotker** where so enticed by the Prince of Edinburgh Award Banquet that they have decided to move to London to pursue becoming the actual of Dukes of Edinburgh. **Nick Boney**, the junior class's resident anglophile and West Briton, tried to explain to them why this wouldn't work, but found himself only able to communicate in cockney rhyming slang. The chuffin' red Daft and Barmy is risin'. Do ya 'ear the bloomin' people sin'?

Chris Burrus was recently turned down from joining the Whiffenpoofs due to his MBA-sanctioned haircut, and will

be embarking instead on a solo tour of Retirement Communities across the State of Florida. **Rem Houghton** was spotted walking down I-24 wearing clown shoes and a kilt, using a meter stick as a walking stick and gently humming Beethoven's 5th (wait—**Henry Ingram** just informed us that it was in fact Beethoven's 4th). **John Michael Gould** will do somethinng, yes, something will be done, but even the crack team of journalists at *The Bell Ringer* couldn't find out exactly what.

Tristan Chari has taken an internship as a personal trainer at the Y, however most of his meager paycheck goes towards replacing all of the rice he spills when he works out. **Davis Lovvorn** has decided to model as the walking-laughing-happy-guy who appears in every college brochure. Similarly, **Harrison Davis** has been cast as "lacrosse player #5" on MTV's next season of "Teen Wolf." **Adam Biesman** has become the guy who reads the disclaimers as fast as they can at the end of commercials, and every coffee shop hiring in Nashville is currently in a bidding war over **Wesley Jenkins**, who can act like as if he doesn't care about anything better than probably anyone else in the city. The perfect barista. "What? Ye-ah, I guess" was all Wesley would comment.

But you know what, guys? We are pretty dang tired of the #mbagrind. We need a break. Our collective motivation is at an all-time low. Thus, we will put as little effort into this last paragraph as we possibly can in the spirit of summer and being a senior: (insert some setup involving summer) (somehow work in a **Chris Burrus** "Shake Me Down" reference in here) (**Grey Reames**). Done.

Freshmen no longer freshmen, still think they are cooler than you

By Werner Bradshaw
Staff Writer

As the end of the year approaches, the freshman class is finally starting to pull things together. Kind of. A relatively new tradition of a post-lunch soccer game was started by a certain 6th period biology class due to their recent banishing from Ingram. Perhaps it was **Phelps Gambill**'s super-loud, super-chill electronic dance music bouncing off of the thick walls of the Ingram building. **Phelps** has now been named the "Kap Slap of the Freshman class."

The now infamous soccer game has earned such prestige that it was videotaped and put on MBA's facebook page featuring the beautiful faces of **Taylor Asher** and **Will Emerson**. Participants include **John "Never Back Down" Kelly**, **KPEEZY Fraizer**, **Brodie "Big Hoss" Poe**, **Alec "The Noob" Whitson**, and **Devon "Emergency Room" Rundberg**.

Devon earned his nickname after he was sent to the emergency room scrapping way too hard during one of the games. Sources tell *The Bell Ringer* that the level of scrappiness had gotten so high that **Taylor "Varsity Lacrosse" Asher** had to remove himself from the game because the lacrosse team would suffer so heavily had he been injured. **Taylor** then made the decision to rejoin the game the next day because the game helps him blow off steam.

Speaking of lacrosse, **Benjamin Graves** deserves a mention for his accomplishments on the lacrosse field. The kid is pretty dang good at LAXXX.

In other news, **Jack "Lift Kit" Malone** devastated the MBA community after he decided to break up with his girlfriend. Needless to say, **Jack** and his girlfriend are back together.

Speaking of women, **Connor Downey** has been "on his game" for the past couple of weeks. When asked to comment on the matter, **Connor**'s only answer to any question was, "She worth it."

Mark Floyd bought a new kayak. He may or may not have also recently been fishing. **Yavin Alwis**, or as some like to call him, "**The Prophet**," is gaining national attention for his excellence in everything. **The Prophet** was reportedly heard muttering aphorisms as he pranced across campus to keep his head level.

Well boys, freshman year is over. It was a bumpy ride, but we have finally reached the end. Don't panic too much if you seek the wisdom of **The Prophet** this summer; he is going to Middlebury to speak some French, spread some wisdom, and possibly save the souls of those who need it more than you do.

Sophomores prefer summer, girls, selfie-sundays

By Owen Powell
Staff Something

"Finna rage cause it summer!" yelled **John Triplet** as he swaggered out of Ball after completing his final exam, energetically giving **James Throckmorton** a congratulatory high five. #HypeForTriplet has been sweeping through twitter after his ability to woo women at Science Olympiad. **Wren McFadden** has been sour over twitter lately. He apparently doesn't like Couple Nicknames, Pictures from Mission Trips, girls who go to the lake, girls who wear blue jeans without shoes, and last but not least "Selfie Sunday." #quitthat.

Well over the past year we've done pretty solid job overall. **Curtis Turner** won Soccer Player of the Year in the nation. **Tusie** better give **Lien** that arm. Tusie and Lien have been going at it in football. **Andrew Porter**, **Chirs Estes**, **Parks Ball**, and **Wren McFadden** are all new additions to the football team. **David Bright** is contemplating rejoining. Wren got honored for being the only tennis player on the football team. Congrats. **Mike Lacey** got disqualified in his 400 for running in lane 7 when he was supposed

to be in lane 8. Mike was quoted saying, "man I do that every meet, they never catch me." He said this before the race. After the race he said, "didn't even do it." Luckily for the MBA track team, we weren't close to a State Championship, so it didn't really matter.

So for the real news, there isn't much. **Harrison Wheeler/Lien** and several others got their pictures taken with all these good looking women for being the Dukes of Eddinbureaugh. However you spell it.

Over the past semester **Anthony Swenson** and I have been competing for the Commander Carr Chemistry Classic Title. After pummeling **Swenson** on the Exam I successfully beat him. Commander Carr said, "yes, quite frankly Owen kicked Swenson's tail in every phase of the game." **Zach Roberts** will present the trophy at Honors Night.

Andrew Porter can chest a high C note. GET SOME DUPUIS. **William Richardson** is still dating that "Hard Knocks" girlfriend of his. **Luke Bullock** is looking for love. **Jack Duke** has also dated some girl for like 15 years. **Will Pearson** can't imagine dating a girl for more than 15 minutes.

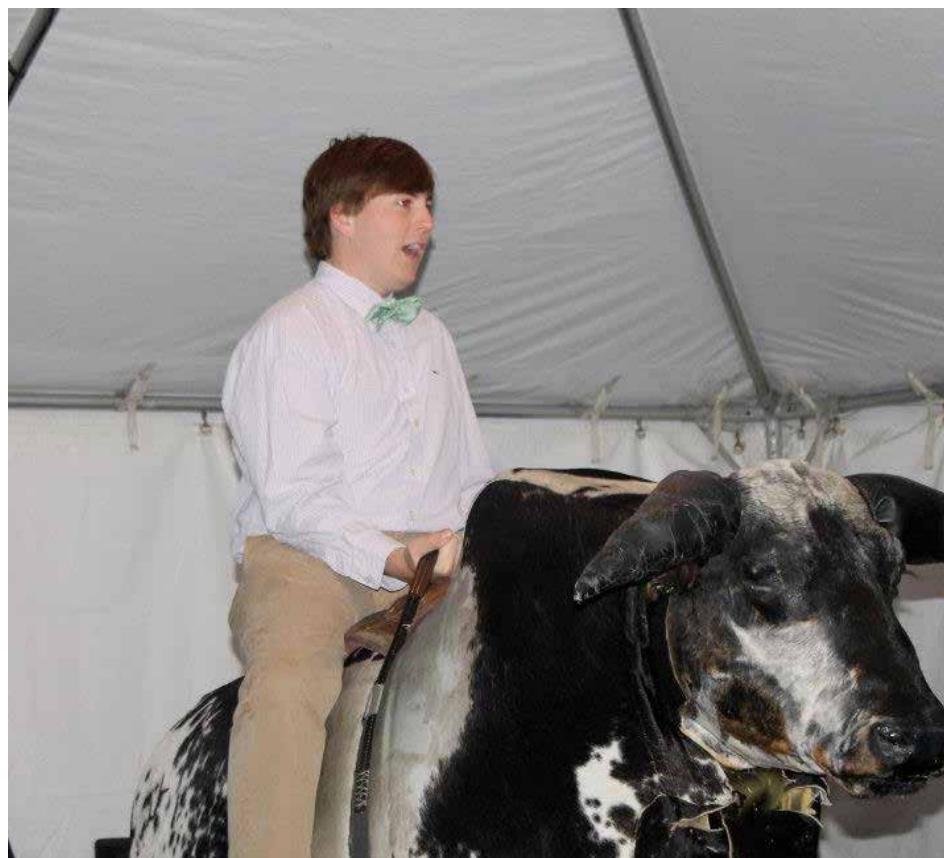
Well, sorry for the average article.

It's summer so I'm just out here grinding. Lets get crazy. Stay classy, and always Chew Big Red Gum.



THE CRIMSON CHIN PREVAILS:
Sophomore track champions sport sick hardware

The Seniors won



COWBOY BABY: Sam keeps it both natural and Frat-ural, touching on the instincts of a man both refined and primal. Bravo, Sam. Bravo.

By MacDaddy H
Skedaddling-Senior-in-chief

The diplomas are printed, cigars are at the ready, and our wall has been built. Gentlemen, our six years are up. As **Ryan Flack** and I reflected recently, it might not have been possible to slog through one more month, much less another year here on the Hill, so props to all ye, members of the class of 2013 for doing enough to squeak out the door.

It's been a pleasure directing this cesspool of equal parts half-truths, nonsense, and flagrant libel, but I suppose all things must end. Before I get too emotional on you, shouts out to all the spring sports. Baseball, soccer, lacrosse, and tennis all placed second in state, and we are now on our third wave of college athletics signings, meaning about 15% of our class will be playing sports in college. That's awesome. But as always, on to the news.

Clint Smith dedicated his regional 800 race to his hairband and slick hair, and **Erin** felt left out. **Tommy Douglas** smells like hot pools, **Davidson White**'s roommate for next year at Vanderbilt is involved in larping (the foam fights like at West End), and **George Swenson** gets violent for his teammates.

McKay Proctor has suffered a string of nosebleeds that have coincided with earthquakes of five Willies or greater. **Colin Caldwell** would like to implore the younger classes to stay away from his couch, **Sam Waitt** is pondering his past, his present, and his future, and **Jack Wagster** loves MBA. **Frank Vest** eats hot SOUP. And ya know what? Everyone in the class of 2013 eats SOUP.

Will McFadden and **Matthew McCall** plan to take over the world as lab partners, but they will have to get past the dynamic duo of **Andrew Graham** and **Chris Duffey**. Sure, sure. **Ryan Potter** has acquired a love bug and is currently seeking

treatment, but that is nothing compared to the situation of **Brooks Best**, who must have grabbed the wrong pills at GNC.

For you poor saps who were not in attendance, **Jack Emerson** wub-dubbed hard at SCA prom, but he never played the Radioactive/No Hands mash-up. I was greatly disappointed. **Nick Green** is so happy to be graduating and plans to celebrate by having a really, really, REALLY good time at Bonnaroo. **Reed Cotheron** is just thankful he made it through the year with his lungs intact.

While most people plan to blow off steam to start their summer breaks, **Morris Egukun** is thankful for a little peace and quiet to recover from his exhausting duties as student body president. **Kamani Hedges** and **Brooks Best** would like to be henceforth known as the "Hang Loose Brothers," and have adopted as their official hand sign the \nnn/. Ya know, the one **Brooks** flashes every chance he gets?

The FPC Pei Wei Crew is sad to see their run come to an end. It's hard to believe that place will keep running without our business. If you didn't see it, **Andrew Karpas** got a shoutout from the City Paper, which was sweet. Another big honor went to **Trey Gill**, who was named the Gatorade Player of the year in Tennessee for soccer. You probably didn't know until it went up on the website, because he never told anyone.

Lucas Fortune snickers in your general direction, because he totaled \$260k in scholarship offers without lifting a finger, resulting in one of the better output-input ratios seen from an MBA student in recent memory. **Alex Smith** has a leash around his neck, and **Jack Rhodes** played out the dream of every little kid ever when he hit a walk-off grand slam in the final four of the state baseball tourney.

Bo Griswold and **Andrew Dobbs** spent their last MBA lunch together mending their broken friendship, counseled by the likes of **Bennett Maxwell**, **Franklin**



BURGERS AND MONEY: Lucas enjoys a delicious snack during an Endada bake sale, during which the committee accrued some fat staxx for the festival.

Garstin, and **Kaylor McCracken**. Speaking of **Kaylor**, he didn't have to get his arm amputated, so that's pretty cool. Also, by unanimous vote, **Aidan "Goon" McSharry** will be an honorary underclassman moving forward.

Chris Duffey really wants to go back to the quarry, but **Aaron Jumonville** is not that into it because that water's not even that blue. **Hunter Crabtree** is back on his grind as a JCC lifeguard, which means he will spend his summer cowering under the thumb of Yvonne. Pour some out for the homies.

Sam Waitt was almost slain by a golf ball a few weeks back, but a more difficult time for him was the total lack of fandom at the state track meet. He was also confused as to the attire required for senior movie day, as he showed up in full Gatsby regalia. It's all good, Sammy, you looked dern swanky.

Now, a narrative by **Madison Rieke**:

"Me and **Moham. Azam**. went to go buy some soup but **Frank** had already eaten/drank it all so we went to a basketball game where **Bo** dunked over **Stein** so we were like what the Bob Saget and then we realized it was Freaky Friday so everything had been switched so we went to the rifle range to watch the football game because remember it was Freaky Friday and everything was freaky but when we got there we saw that Lord Webb had replaced Gary at RB then we went back to Frank's cause he had made more soup."

Ryan Owen has a new girlfriend, and the baseball team is still lurkin. The crew team, with the graduation of its senior leaders and life support, will be closing its doors permanently. Said one dejected underclassman on the departure of the senior rowers, "Without anyone to share the load with Bates, how can we hope to go on?"

After many years of rigorous, arduous research and strenuous work,

Patrick Moody, **Sam Turner**, and **Jake Simons**'s brother have finally completed their rocketship and will be launching it in early June. **Kevin Wang** took a break from piano-ing for the Science Olympiad competition, where he took a shot at the Blazin' Challenge. He described the aftereffects as a ring of fire that lingered first on his lips before moving south. Don't play with fire, men.

The members of Mrs. Holmgren's anatomy class are very worried about our resident waterfall enthusiast, **Tom Kaiser**, as he has been afflicted with just about every ailment we have studied this year. **Wilson Johnson** weeps, not only for Tree, but for the fact that he can no longer bully **McKay** in calculus.

Now from time to time I've been known to quote out of context. So I present for this issue's misquote, **Mr. Adam Bowman**. When talking about the girl from Franklin who's *totally* not his girlfriend, he said, "I just need her to drag wood out of the forest." Bowman, you dog.

Think back to the Leavers' Dinner for a moment. I know it wasn't just me who felt the incredible camaraderie of our class, and while I should have been mapping out my impromptu speech during Nathan's solo song, I couldn't help but sit there and just enjoy being a part of this group of guys.

We've been through a lot as a class over the years, and so much has happened since that dinner that the memory already seems a bit foggy. Nevertheless, I hope I can hold on to that feeling for years to come when I think of our class. It's been real, and it's been fun, and at times it actually has been real fun. So go forth, peace out rainbow trout, sound your barbaric yaws; stay thirsty, stay classy, and RFR. Seniors win.



GLUCK

ORTHODONTICS

A Legendary and One-of-a-Kind Experience



“I love Dr. Gluck!”

-Spanky the Ewok, *The Bell Ringer*’s mascot

Daniel Gluck 2003
Jonathan Gluck 2004

2002 Richard Jones Road Ste. A-200
615-269-5903

www.drgluck.com

Every issue, our resident Coach Pythagoras Will McFadden breaks down the statistics of the Hill. This month, he takes on the deceased First dining hall

R.I.P. Frist Hall (1992-2013)

While we will continue to use Frist Hall as a music room, this now-empty area in the Davis building has seen its last days as a cafeteria. It served the Hill well in its twenty-one years, but, like most things, it has now been replaced by the newer, bigger, better. Frist Hall has seen a lot of food, but exactly how much? How many Calories have been consumed by hungry young men within its walls in the last twenty-one years? Let's do the math.

Obviously, the amount of food eaten for lunch differs not only by day, but even more by person. To make things easier, though, I will try to create the "average" meal of an MBA student: one PBJ sandwich,

a salad, an ice cream sandwich, 2 cartons of chocolate milk, and of course, a side of the world-famous Sage Pasta.

Calorie Count:

PBJ Sandwich: 343
Salad: 33
Ice cream sandwich: 180
2 cartons of chocolate milk: 170 each multiplied by 2 = 340
Sage Pasta: 220
Total: $343+33+180+340+220 = 1,116$
Calories/person/lunch

1,116 Calories per lunch

So, how much would a 2013 senior have eaten in Frist since 7th grade?

$1,116 \text{ Calories/lunch} \times 5 \text{ days/week} \times 34 \text{ weeks/school year} \times 5.5 \text{ years} = 1,043,460$
Calories eaten by 2013 senior in Frist Hall

1,043,460 Calories per senior

Let's say the average number of students + faculty at MBA per year for the past twenty-years has been 800

So, $1,116 \text{ Calories/person} \times 800 \text{ people} = 892,800 \text{ Calories eaten per lunch at MBA}$

$892,800 \text{ Calories/lunch} \times 5 \text{ lunches/week} \times 34 \text{ weeks/school year} = 151,776,000$
Calories/year

151,776,000 Calories per

And finally: $151,776,000 \text{ Calories/year} \times 21 \text{ years} = 3,187,296,000$
Calories eaten in Frist Hall

3,187,296,000 Calories consumed in Frist

To put it in perspective, burning 1 ton of coal produces approximately 21 gigajoules of energy

$3,187,296,000 \text{ Calories} =$
 $3,187,296,000,000 \text{ calories}$
1 calorie = 4.184 Joules

Therefore:

$3,187,296,000,000 \text{ calories} =$
 $1.3333564646 \times 10^{13} \text{ Joules} =$
13,335.65 gigajoules

So the energy consumed in Frist Hall is roughly equivalent to 13,335.65 GJ / 21 GJ = **635 tons of coal**

Equivalent of 635 tons of coal

Stay hungry, my friends.

Students do it all: write, direct and perform in MBA's one acts



MBA THESBIANS GIVE A TOUR DE FORCE PERFORMANCE: James Matthews as *Push the Bully* in Jackson Cole's Poetics for Bullies; Nathan Fouts, Madison Asher, and Coleman Sorenson in Alex Floyd's *The Criminals*

By Nolan Spear
Staff Writer

This past April, many hardworking members of MBA's theater program came together to perform the four Student-Directed One Act plays developed this fall.

The directors of these shows, Jackson Cole (*Poetics for Bullies*), Reed Cothron (*The Devil's Den*), Alex Floyd (*The Criminals*), and Vince Pavini (*Variations on the Death of Trotsky*) all worked very, very hard in producing their shows, and it was evident in the quality of the performances.

The shows were produced three times: Thursday April 18th and Friday April 19th at 7, and Saturday April 20th; each show was even better than the last, all incredibly different but all radiating the same artistic, intelligent qualities that really make up the MBA Theater program.

First, *Poetics for Bullies*, senior Jackson Cole's take on Stanley Elkin's

short story, really required the viewer to listen and reflect on the perspective of his main character, Push the Bully, played by sophomore James Matthews. James was convincing in his role as the bully, and surrounded by an excellent supporting cast of Cole Harrison, Coleman Sorenson, Davidson Frith, Harry Stewart, Neil Hawkins, and Matt Remke.

The show was intelligently written, and the audience was clearly enamored by the performances of all the actors.

The second performance, *The Devil's Den*, a film directed by senior Reed Cothron, featured a cast of freshman Drew Gordon as "Doug," Harpeth Hall senior Caroline Grace Williams as "Samantha," and Nolan Spear as "Jamie." At roughly 15 minutes in length, several scenes required multiple camera angles, showing the directing and camera skills of Cothron.

It told the tale of the high school loner, Doug, trying to win the heart of

Samantha using the help of a figment of his imagination, Jamie. The film's script, a collaboration between Drew and Reed, was insightful, and that combined with the excellent camera work made for an enjoyable experience.

Third in order of appearance, *The Criminals*, directed by senior Alex Floyd, was a humorous take on a serious situation. It followed the tribulations of Robert (senior Mattison Asher) trying to cover up a murder with his best friend Shane (senior Nathan Fouts), while all trying to conceal this crime from his wife (Harpeth Hall junior Brianne Morrow).

The play featured many funny sequences between Shane and Robert. The show drew the biggest laughs of the night. The time Floyd took to the write the show, and the detail he put in, was palpable.

Finally, *Variations on the Death of Trotsky*, directed by Vince Pavini, served as an excellent final show in a year



of exceptionally strong one acts. It was an unconventional show, starring sophomore Jess Darnell, Harpeth Hall junior Carrie Ferrellli, and freshman Wes Richardson, described a variation of situations in which Leon Trotsky was stabbed with an ice axe. It was unlike anything the audience was likely to have seen before, and the acting and accents were impeccable.

The 2013 One Acts was the most comprehensive collection of performances MBA theater has ever put on in terms of student involvement. In addition to students writing their own material, it was the first time a film had ever been screened during the One Acts.

All in all, the 2013 MBA Student Directed One Acts was an impressive group of performances that ended a truly excellent year of theater here on the Hill. One can only look forward to next year, when we will see the creative minds of even more seniors.

Big red time capsule

SOME MEMORIES SHOULD NEVER FADE

>>FROM SENIORS, 1

Some more notable memories of six years on the Hill, compiled into one page.

Remember when Franklin Garstin had to lick deodorant in Mr. Harvey's class?

Remember when Mr. Barclay's advisory attacked Mr. Sawyer's with a butt load of nerf guns?

Remember that time Mr. Thurmond hit Davidson with an expo marker and made him bleed?

Remember that time Commander Carr's exam kicked you in the manhood?

Remember how Grubbs couldn't go to high school parties?

Remember that feeling when Mrs. Holmgren confirmed that there would indeed be visuals on the next test?

Remember when RKP lit Mark Lowe's binder on fire and poured chocolate milk on McLean Hudson's desk?

Remember when your moral education came primarily from Mr. Thurmond?

Remember Mattison Asher's suit for the freshman speech competition?

Remember when Tony Birdsong went by Anthony? Or even further back, Michael?

Remember when Mr. Bullington was your teacher but you didn't know Galen was in our grade yet?

Remember when Mr. Webb told you you need to SHAVE?

Remember when Landon Bullock was an Abercrombie/Hollister model?

Remember when Gray Bryant broke his nose in the stairwell in Massey?

Remember when Ryan Owen was an evangelist? Darwin recalls those days.

Remember when Alan was in Spain? Does he?!

Remember that time in Mr. Frantz' class?

Remember when Furman Haynes and Jake Macey had to skip around Massey together?

Remember that time Nick Peterson threatened to kill a guy?

Remember Davidson White's ultra-prep phase?

Remember that time Corn almost fought Gumby?

Remember the days when Robert Papel would hang out with Madison Fletcher?

Remember when you could actually distinguish between Falkner and his siblings?

Remember when Paul Moore was a quarterback?

Remember when McKay Proctor was a rapper, alias Colossus? Shots fired?

Remember that time Mark studied? Remember all the times he read girls' fantasy novels instead?

Remember when Jack Emerson had the sickest flow at freshman winter formal? How about that time with the peppermint patty?

Remember when your first got motivated for a football game?

Remember when Clay McLemore's cleats weren't rainbow colors?

Remember that time Trip Adams destroyed his ankle going hard at Sky High?

Remember that time when Alan Liang shredded his air violin on the way to Knoxville for swimming?

Remember when Dr. Paschall's ghost possessed the white board?

Remember that time when Mohammad showered?

Remember when Tate Ramsden showed emotion?

Remember forging with Andy Seay until the map was done?

Remember when we got a new dining hall?

Remember that time Colin Caldwell told a legitimate story?

Remember when Andrew Karpos got grounded for an 89 in English?

Remember that time when Tom Bu followed you around school all day? No? Exactly.

Remember when love was binding on eighth grade media

Remember the freestyle cypher on the Atlanta trip? Remember when Chris Hook's managed to slice his own wrist open in hockey?

Remember when Gonner Griffin chipped his tooth while leading Rack City?

Remember that time Mr. Russ's advisory made a rollercoaster out of a cardboard box and charged seventh graders to ride in it?

Remember when Furman Haynes frequented Elmington Park?

Remember that time McLean Hudson went too far with the class news?

Remember when Mr. Herring promised there wouldn't be Civil War battles on the test?

Remember when Connor Murphy cursed at Mrs. Palmore?

Remember when Andrew Karpos made that crucial addition to a class meeting?

Remember how pure you felt before you first swam in the pool at the JCC?

Remember when George Swenson didn't wear Lacoste or Polo? or Ice Sperrys

Remember that time James Sharp missed a free throw?

Remember that time William Yang got accepted to Johns Hopkins?

Remember when Connor Murphy advocated eugenics?

Remember Dustin Kruthaupt?

Remember when Dallas Gibson attempted to assassinate Lucas with a bean?

Remember when you had HUUUUUGE dreams?

Remember the Circle of Trust?

Remember when Trey Gill went full Wilt Chamberlain?

Remember Diesel Package?

Remember when Coach Pruitt waited in a puddle to splash you?

Remember when you were first warned against shaking his hand?

Remember when Brandon Key asked _____?

- if he could turn a snowman into a glacier by sitting on it

- if America had a dictator

- if he could mummify himself

- what would happen if the women don't get clean

Remember when Jonathan Siktberg was gloriously bad at Spanish?

Remember when a ball of Thorium could power the entire Eastern seaboard?

Remember when Marcus and Henry weren't on speaking terms?

Remember when you had a lovely conversation with Mr. Norton about your weekend plans?

Remember when Wallabee rubber was a finite resource, worth its weight in gold?

Remember *Silas Marner*?

Remember when Chris Habermann used his superior intellect to take advantage of you?

Remember when I said RAAAAAAA-bert?



day?

Remember when Cade Hooper and Falkner got into it during Cheevers' fitness class?

Remember when we won the Senior-Faculty Basketball game?

Remember when McKay Proctor twipped at the podium?

Remember when Andrew Graham still wore school appropriate shoes?

Remember the days when Jack Rhodes rocked the bowl cut?

Remember that time with Colin Caldwell's couch?

Remember when Mark Lowe took the train out West?

Remember when you watched the "Miracle of Life" in biology?

Remember when Reed Cothron's lung collapsed? Remember when it happened again?

Remember that time we sang "Happy Birthday" to Mr. Gioia in assembly?

Remember when Rack City stormed the beaches at Ensworth?

Remember the time where Ryan Potter outshined even Adam Bowman in notoriety?

Remember when Potter made that joke about Barry?

Remember when Douglas Philmont Whitmore friended you on facebook?

Remember when Michael Piana broke Nick Green's leg with a slap shot?

Remember the FirstClass Message Boards?

Remember that time Nick Green was reported missing, but it turned out he had fallen asleep in his car in the parking lot?

Bringing out the best

Senior Superlatives

By Jack Wagster
Superlative guy

Trip Adams -- most changed person in the senior class

Madison Asher -- most likely to shout

Mo Azam -- most likely to end up in jail

John Bachmann -- nicest truck

Jack Benton -- most likely to be in a frat

Brooks Best -- biggest case of senioritis

Tony Birdsong -- wears the best watches

Jack Bond -- most likely to not associate himself with the class

Adam Bowman -- Most likely to be Successful

Jt Braun -- most likely to have sunglasses

Chris Briggs -- most likely to throw the best party

Gray Bryant -- most likely to crip walk at prom

Tom Bu -- most talkative

Galen Bullington -- young at heart

Landon Bullock -- most likely to be the strong, silent type

Colin Caldwell -- most likely to have a crappy couch

Will Campbell -- best teeth (seriously, have you seen his teeth?)

Jackson Cole -- most dreamed about

Reed Cothron -- most likely to be a movie tech star

Hunter Crabtree -- trendiest

Hayden Deakins -- most aggressive

Andrew Dobbs -- most likely to work at seaworld

JeTarri Donald -- most likely to be on survivor

Tommy Douglas -- most likely to be a millionaire

Chris Duffey -- most likely to be Duffle Fluff

Sam Edwards -- most country boy

Morris Equakun -- class president

Andrew Einstman -- biggest secret genius

Jack Emerson -- most likely to be a movie producer

Whit Emerson -- most likely to be late

Ryan Flack -- most laid back

Mitchell Flautt -- most likely to play for Arsenal

Jackson Flora -- biggest bromance (see Benjamin Haynes)

Alex Floyd -- most likely to make it to Broadway

Lucas Fortune -- most likely to quietly beat everyone in everything

Nathan Fouts -- best singer/ songwriter

John Garrett -- nicest person in our grade

Franklin Garstin -- most likely to be proactive

Dallas Gibson -- best excuses for absence/ tardiness

Trey Gill -- best all around athlete

Barry Goldsmith -- most huggable

Jody Gorham -- most likely to rage in KOLLEGE

Andrew Graham -- class flirt

Nick Green -- least studious

Gonner Griffin -- most likely to get Facebook likes

Bo Griswold -- most popular

Taylor Groom -- most optimistic

Hunter Guye -- most American

Chris Habermann -- most likely to cure cancer

Dylan Hall -- most likely to find a rich wife

Terence Harris -- the best hair

Cole Harrison -- most likely to start a band

Furman Haynes -- easiest to rip on

Benjamin Haynes -- biggest bromance (see Jackson Flora)

James Higgins -- most likely to hang out with Miller

Kamani Hodges -- most likely to ball

Chris Hooks -- most likely to get married first

Cade Hooper -- least likely to be messed with

McLean Hudson -- most likely to make a difference in the community

Gary Jackson -- the most Jacked / unexpectedly friendly

Wilson Johnson -- class dad

Aaron Jumonville -- most likely to get married first

Tom Kaiser -- tallest person

Andrew Karpos -- gentleman, scholar, athlete

Amol Kaushal -- best laugh

Brandon Key -- most likely to be a king

Alan Liang -- most likely to have his name yelled across campus

Lucas Littlejohn -- most hipster

Bradley Long -- best gamer

Mark Lowe -- most concerned about his hair

Henry Lynch -- Most likely to not be on speaking terms with Marcus

Jake Macey -- most likely to be a coin collector

Bennett Maxwell -- class clown

David Maynard -- biggest thug

Mathew McCall -- most likely to play 5-3-2

Kaylor McCracken -- most likely to have a quick injury recovery period

Will McFadden -- most mature

Clay McLemore -- most random

Aiden McSharry -- most likely to disrupt a race

John Mellow -- most likely to work on Wall Street

Robby Mills -- person who always is smiling

Hamilton Millwee -- most likely to make a medical breakthrough

Patrick Moody -- most likely member to exit the TFC

Paul Moore -- best mixtape

Penn Murfee -- best baseball player of the class

Conner Murphy -- drama king

Wesley Nealy -- most likely to hang out with Nick Green at college

Sal Neglia -- most likely to be a chess master

Ryan Owen -- most likely to visit the creation museum

Vince Panvini -- best eyes

Robert Papel -- most likely to be reading a kindle

Nick Peterson -- most likely to be late to graduation

Bevan Petrikin -- most likely to have the most successful business

Michael Piana -- most likely to be the next Wayne Gretzky

Ryan Potter -- most likely internet sensation (open for interpretation)

John Powell -- most likely to rage

Perrish Preston -- most likely to work in Hollywood

McKay Procter -- most likely to host his own Talk show

Tate Ramsden -- nicest car

Clay Ramsey -- most sophisticated

Cody Reeves -- most likely to take over the world (it's always the quiet ones)

Jack Rhodes -- best social media presence

Madison Rieke -- best nickname

Marcus Riley -- best hair

Christian Sargent -- most likely to work for hurley

Vincent Shapani -- most likely to survive an apocalypse

Andrew Scott -- most likely to be told to sing in assembly

James Sharp -- most likely to take the shot

Jono Siktburg -- most likely to win a prize

Jake Simons -- best geographical man

Alex Smith -- most infectious laugh

Clint Smith -- nicest butt and most likely to be a commander

J. Carlton Smith -- party animal

George Swenson -- take home to parents guy

Hunter Tidwell -- most likely to rupture the time-space continuum

John Tully -- life of the party

Sam Turner -- most opinionated boy

Frank Vest -- most likely to say soup or egg

Jack Wagster -- that's me

Sam Waitt -- most likely to start his own business

Kevin Wang -- most likely to join the New York Philharmonic

Faulkner Werkhaven -- most likely to lead his own military coup

Davidson White -- most likely to be on a funny vine

William Yang -- most likely to have a breakout K-pop hit

Leaving the Hill

This fall, the Class of 2013 will travel to 56 universities in 22 states (and DC) around the country

Trip Adams Samford University	Hayden Deakins University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Barry Goldsmith Georgetown University	Aaron Jumonville Middle Tennessee State University	Paul Moore Vanderbilt University	Christian Sargent University of Kentucky
Mattison Asher Wesleyan University	Andrew Dobbs Southern Methodist University	Jody Gorham Auburn University	Tom "Tree" Kaiser University of Dallas	Penn Murfee Vanderbilt University	Vince Schipani University of Mississippi
Mohammad Azamtarrahan University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Jetarii Donald Mercer University	Andrew Graham Wofford University	Andrew Karpas University of Virginia	Connor Murphy University of Virginia	Andrew Scott University of Tennessee, Knoxville
John Bachmann University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Tommy Douglas Furman University	Nick Green Tulane University	Amol Kaushal Rollins College	Wesley Nealy Tulane University	James Sharp University of Mississippi
Jack Benton Furman University	Chris Duffey Birmingham-Southern College	Conner Griffin Furman University	Brandon Key Morehouse College	Sal Neglia Wake Forest University	Jonathan Siktberg Baylor University
Brooks Best Mercer University	Sam Edwards Auburn University	Bo Griswold University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Alan Liang Rice University	Ryan Owen Samford University	Jake Simons Harvard College
Tony Birdsong Western Kentucky University	Morris Eguakun Stetson University	Taylor Groom University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Lucas Littlejohn Pomona College	Vince Panvini University of Miami	Alex Smith University of Alabama
Jack Bond Ohio State University	Andrew Einstman University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Hunter Guye University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Bradley Long Georgia Tech	Robert Papel Georgetown University	Clint Smith University of Alabama
Adam Bowman Princeton University	Jack Emerson Appalachian State University	Chris Habermann Princeton University	Mark Lowe Vanderbilt University	Nick Peterson Samford University	J. Carlton Smith University of Mississippi
J. T. Braun Miami University, Oxford	Whit Emerson University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Dylan Hall Auburn University	Henry Lynch Centre College	Bevan Petrik Texas Christian University	George Swenson Vanderbilt University
Chris Briggs Southern Methodist University	Ryan Flack University of Mississippi	Terrence Harris Western Kentucky University	Jake Macey Vanderbilt University	Michael Piana Harvard College	Hunter Tidwell Rice University
Gray Bryant University of Kentucky	Mitchell Flault Santa Clara University	Chase Harrison Belmont University	Bennett Maxwell University of Mississippi	Ryan Potter University of South Carolina	John Tully Auburn University
Tom Bu Yale University	Jackson Flora University of Georgia	Benjamin Haynes University of North Carolina Chapel Hill	David Maynard Vanderbilt University	John Powell Auburn University	Sam Turner University of Mississippi
Galen Bullington Miami University, Oxford	Lucas Fortune University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Furman Haynes Princeton University	Matthew McCall Purdue University	Parrish Preston Washington and Lee University	Frank Vest Hanover College
Landon Bullock Clemson University	Alex Floyd New York University	James Higgins Dickinson College	Kaylor McCracken University of Tennessee, Knoxville	McKay Proctor University of Texas at Austin	Jack Wagster Auburn University
Colin Caldwell Vanderbilt University	Nathan Fouts University of Miami	Kamani Hodges Florida Southern College	Will McFadden University of Virginia	Tate Ramsden Dartmouth College	Sam Waitt Furman University
Will Campbell Wake Forest University	John Garrett University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Chris Hooks Miami University, Oxford	Clay McLemore Virginia Tech	Clay Ramsey University of Mississippi	Kevin Wang Yale University
Jackson Cole Seattle Pacific University	Franklin Garstin University of Mississippi	Cade Hooper University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Aidan McSharry Virginia Tech	Cody Reeves Florida Southern University	Falkner Werkhaven University of Alabama
Reed Cothron Savannah College of Art and Design	Dallas Gibson Brescia University	McLean Hudson University of Virginia	John Mellow Columbia University	Jack Rhodes Birmingham-Southern College	Davidson White Vanderbilt University
Hunter Crabtree Virginia Tech	Trey Gill University of South Carolina	Wilson Johnson Auburn University	Robbie Mills University of Kentucky	Madison Rieke Auburn University	William Yang Johns Hopkins University
			Hamilton Millwee Boston University		
			Patrick Moody Auburn University		
			Marcus Riley University of Miami		

Decisions, decisions: Juniors and recruiting

ALEX BARS

College Choices Scouting Report Latest News Stats



Offensive tackle
Nashville, Tennessee
Montgomery Bell Academy
[View Map](#)

Ht: 6'6" Wt: 290 lbs Class: 2014 (High School)

[Play Video](#)
Bars commits to Irish 5 videos available »

[View Photo Gallery \(5\)](#)
[Add to Favorites](#)

Commitment Status:
Solid Verbal

D.J. MOTT

College Choices Scouting Report Latest News Stats



Offensive guard
Nashville, Tennessee
Montgomery Bell Academy
[View Map](#)

Ht: 6'5" Wt: 255 lbs 40: 5.3 secs Class: 2014 (High School)

[View Photo Gallery \(2\)](#)
[Add to Favorites](#)



Rivals Rating

★★★★★

RANKINGS

POSITION

NATIONAL

STATE

7

Rivals Rating

NATIONAL

STATE

56

3

Rivals Rating About 4.9 6.1

rivals100

MORE RANKINGS

- Rivals.com Rivals100 2014 (56)
- Rivals.com offensive tackles 2014 (7)
- Rivals.com Tennessee Spring Top 20 2014 (3)
- [Rankings index »](#)

Rivals Rating About 4.9 6.1

rivals100

MORE RANKINGS

- Rivals.com Rivals100 2014 (56)
- Rivals.com offensive tackles 2014 (7)
- Rivals.com Tennessee Spring Top 20 2014 (3)
- [Rankings index »](#)

A TEAM OF RIVALS: Alex and D.J. are getting a lot of traffic on and off the internet. Alex has already committed to Notre Dame, while D.J. is still weighing his considerable options. Both figure to be important parts of their respective recruiting classes.

By Sam Weien
Asst. News Editor

School may be out, but that doesn't mean that work is over. Soon after graduation, MBA football players are back on the practice field training for next season. Several of these athletes are working even harder, trying to extend their careers past high school. Garnering scholarship offers is a separate but equally demanding task for MBA football athletes.

Contact with recruits starts after the athlete's junior season. Scouts have been tracking players throughout the season, and high-profile players usually have coaches contact them. However, most athletes have to put in a tremendous effort to be recruited. According to junior offensive lineman D.J. Mott, players "send hundreds of emails and make phone calls, just trying to get noticed." Facebook and Twitter have also become recruitment tools for

both players and coaches. Athletes also have to use their own valuable time to get recruited. According to Mott, recruits can spend up to two hours a night on phone calls, and use most weekends visiting colleges.

The MBA football program will sometimes initiate contact between the recruit and the school. Smaller schools will ask Coach Euverard for a list of players that fit certain requirements and contact them. Since small schools do not have the recruiting resources afforded to other schools, this is the most effective way to reach out to potential recruits. Other times, the coach of a larger school will be on campus recruiting one athlete, and the MBA coaches will give the coach info about another player and schedule a meeting between the two.

Over the spring and summer, recruits and college coaches attend scouting camps across the nation. These camps take the height and weight of each athlete, gauge his ability through

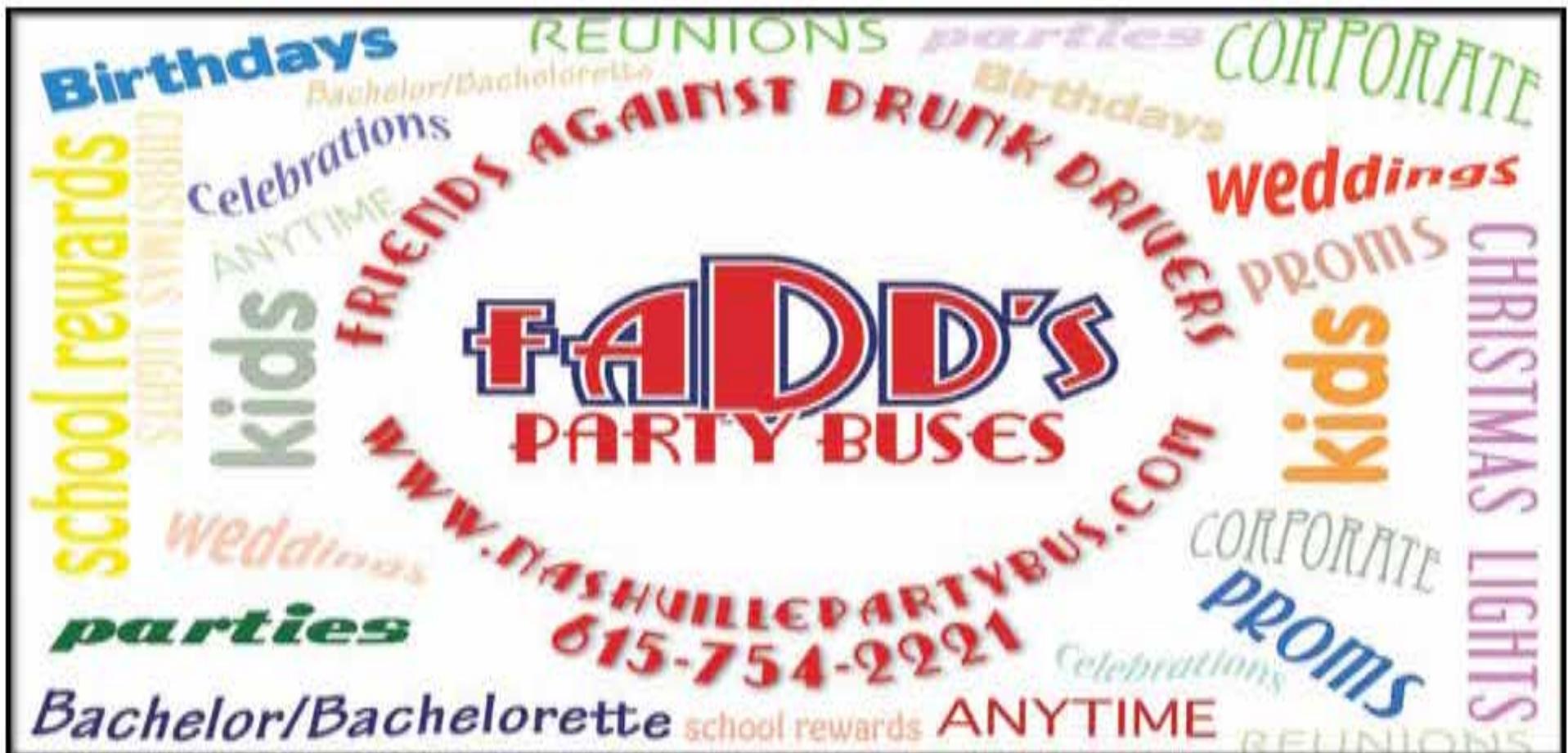
drills (like the forty-yard dash), and facilitate inter-prospect drills (such as seven-on seven football). These camps can be helpful if one does well in them, but they cannot hurt. As Mott says, "they are good practice and serve as a resume builder, but they are not very significant." MBA players are able to take advantage of the large number of local colleges that host camps near by.

The summer before senior year is the most important part of the recruiting process off the field. Athletes have time to do whatever needs to be done to be successful in the process. They can improve in order to make one final push for better offers, or they can use their time to establish a stronger rapport with the coaches who have already made offers. Even though it is six months from signing day, the summer is the beginning of the home stretch for the recruiting process.

As the senior year starts, athletes begin to receive even more

offers. While several recruits receive offers in their junior year, many players are drafted senior year. All Division I FBS and most FCS offer full ride scholarships. Ivy League schools, however, can only give financial aid packages, not full scholarships. Division III schools, which often contact MBA players, do not offer full tuition athletic scholarships. They offer some financial aid, but not as officially as Division I offers. The schools make offers around a month after they first contact a player, but some athletes are lucky enough to be given an offer the first time they contact a school.

By January, most athletes at MBA who will be playing at the next level know where they will be the following year. The long journey through high school football may be over, but for several players, their journey is only beginning.



FADD'S
PARTY BUSES

www.nashvillepartybus.com
615-754-2221

BIRTHDAYS
CELEBRATIONS
KIDS
WEDDINGS
PARTIES
BACHELOR/BACHELORETTE
SCHOOL REWARDS
ANYTIME

REUNIONS
FRIENDS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVERS
CORPORATE
PROMS
KIDS
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS
REUNIONS

A FLURRY OF FINALS | SPRING SPORTS REVIEW

Soccer falls one game short of invincibility

By McKay Proctor
Unapologetic Homer

The best Big Red Side in recent memory has fallen to an extra-time free kick from Father Ryan. In a state championship final that can only be described as gutting, the Big Red played two hours of hotly contested soccer only to fall short. From a tactical perspective, the blame does not fall with any specific decision or player – over the course of 120 minutes, mistakes spread evenly across the team – but the main culprits were fatigue and Father Ryan’s negative play. The final came on the back of an extra time battle against Baylor which saw the Big Red go through on an Andrew Conwell header after some 100 minutes of play.

MBA may have played longer and later than Ryan the night before, but the first half went according to plan. The excitement of the final carried the Big Red through the first half looking the better team. Ryan’s strategy was cynical and negative, deciding to jam the top of the box with defenders and hope to poach a goal on the break. They were, to their credit, dogged in defense but for a half, MBA dictated play through the midfield where their technical quality showed regularly. Will Emerson and Nick Obremsky dominated through their interplay up the pitch with Jonah Rappuhn providing a strong base. After gaining a goal advantage off a corner kick, the fatigue set in and Ryan’s hard tackling caught up to the more creative side. When MBA went ahead on a corner kick, it seemed just reward for their control.

Ryan began to work mercilessly down the wings with inferior pace and quality but with undeniably fresher legs. MBA’s back four and defensive



COME AT ME: Hayden Deakins and his combative style of play were often a catalyst for the Big Red on the pitch

midfield were valiant in parrying the repeated blunt thrusts from Ryan’s forward line. Again and again they chased after through balls and made precise, controlled tackles when a lesser side would have lacked the mental sharpness and determination. The attacking play was similar – mentally MBA’s wingers were present, but lacked the burst to exploit Ryan’s flanks. Eventually, the Big Red gave way under the bludgeoning wings of attack on a dubious free kick that, true to form, Ryan fumbled rudely into the net after a few seconds of scrambling. After nicking a goal, even Ryan began to tire and the game became a sloppy, cramp-ridden affair. The Big Red had the ideas, but their bodies betrayed them and Ryan, with no real creative plan to begin with,

became even duller in attack.

As the game dragged into extra time, penalties seemed inevitable, but then aggressive referee intervention tipped the scales toward Ryan. In the last period of extra time, Henry Lynch was sent off on a reactionary straight red card on a corner kick. Moments later, the referee awarded another questionable free kick and it dropped in with less than a minute left before the penalty kick shootout. The good guys (and the better side) had lost.

That was a lot of game summary, but the ultimate point is to praise this team for the quality they showed at every opportunity, and the grit they demonstrated in the playoffs. The breaks did not go their way in the finals or the semi finals, but the one constant was endless effort. The

team still stands above its predecessors, having conceded just twice in the regular season and never losing before the final. Their top ten national ranking points to a side that, with a day’s rest, might have demonstrated their class in the final instead of being locked in a dog fight with a fresher side. Having played 200 minutes over a two-day period, it felt like a great injustice had been done. Fatigue had denied an attractive, creative side the chance to truly compete. In the end, this is the cruel reality of championship finals in a game as fickle as soccer. All too often, negativity and cynicism triumph over talent and intelligence. That seems to be the case with this vintage of the Big Red Side.

The seniors of this team have been unflinching servants of the program from day one. The knee-jerk tendency may be to label this team a “failure,” but that is a designation both short-sighted and dangerous. The way this team played was a result of an intense soccer education over the course of four years. They may not have their name on a gold trophy but they should not be remembered for the one moment fate conspired against them, but for the moments of discreet greatness they earned. To those that watched them it matters little which side won the game. The joy came from the interplay and the expression and the positional discipline that yielded their incredible record. A team like this should be remembered for their positive play even when they fall short in the end, if only as an example for those that follow. As Grantland Rice said, “When the one Great Scorer comes to mark your name, He marks not whether you won or lost but how you played the game.”

Lacrosse comes short in state final

By Andrew Karpos
Sports Editor

The MBA Varsity Lacrosse Team ended a successful 2013 campaign with an exciting run to the State Finals.

When describing how the team grew and developed throughout the year, Head Coach John Harvey explained, “Our guys took on the identity of grinders. We tried to outwork the other teams, and when we did so, we started to have success.”

Highlights of the season included quality wins over teams such as Ensworth, Baylor, and Christian Brothers High School.

The main highpoint of the season, however, was clearly the playoff run at year’s end. Coach Harvey comments, “Everything came together for us during



TOPCHED: Fred Harwell celebrates with Benjamin Haynes and Jackson Flora

the playoffs. Our defense and goalie Jack Benton stayed peaking, and our offense and face off play also hit its stride.” The team rolled through the first two rounds of

the playoffs, setting up a semifinal clash with #1 seed McCallie in the semifinals. Although McCallie was touted as one of the best lacrosse teams to grace Tennessee in the

last decade, the Big Red hung with them the entire game and pulled out the huge upset with an overtime goal by senior Jackson Flora.

Although they came up just short in the State Championship Game with a loss to a talented MUS team, this year’s squad should be very proud of all that they accomplished on their way to becoming State Runner-Ups.

When looking back on the season and the team as a whole, Coach Harvey says, “I will remember the growth and perseverance this group had. We had a rough start to this year, and the boys kept working, fought hard, and had some big wins at the end.”

Tennis closes season with second place finish

By Ben Barton
Staff Writer

The MBA tennis team had a spectacular season, with impressive individual accomplishments and the emergence of promising young talent. The team began the season with a great start at the DecoTurf National Tournament. There, the doubles team consisting of Aaron Jumonville and Andrew Karpos placed 4th, a best for MBA tennis thus far, and each was given the all-tournament team doubles award. After hitting the ground running, the team went on to win four 7-0 shutouts in a row, and finished the season winning every non-tournament match. MBA ended up taking 2nd at the state tournament.

The MBA team seems to unanimously agree that what made this season unique was its hard work and subsequent victories in its doubles game. "I think where we really made strides was in our doubles play. We've always been a strong singles team, but this year we had a great doubles record as a team, and it made a big difference," explained Aaron Jumonville. The MBA tennis team became so dominant in doubles that MBA won the



DUELING SENIORS: Andrew Karpos and Aaron Jumonville were a potent force, leading a grizzled corps of seniors to a fourth straight state final.

doubles point against every team it played this year.

Another thing that the MBA tennis team can all agree on was its key matches. After years of tight competition with Baylor, the team dominated Baylor at home this year in a manner unheard of in recent MBA history. "Because of our long

running rivalry with Baylor, beating them 7-0 was very exciting," reported Kalyan Chadalavada. The team also agrees that the match with St.X was important, but for a different reason. MBA narrowly lost this match 4-3, but all agree that MBA played hard and grew significantly through standing up to such a good team.

"Our turning point was our loss against St. Xavier in the St. Xavier Jamboree. We played a great match and became closer as a team and played our best tennis from then on," asserted Jumonville.

"Overall I think we grew a lot as a team," commented Aaron Jumonville when asked to sum up the team's journey this year. When asked about the future of the MBA tennis program, Jumonville was very optimistic, naming Kalyan Chadalavada and Fred Harwell as next year's senior leadership. When talking about George Harwell, the team's breakout 8th grade star, Jumonville stated that "George already has a strong winning record as an 8th grader. I'm not sure any 8th grader in MBA history has done as well as he has at such a young age." Aaron has committed to play college tennis at MTSU, and says that his biggest goal is to be constantly improving. "No team will be the same as the team I've been a part of at MBA," says Aaron. "I'll keep in touch with those guys for the rest of my life, and they'll all go on to do big things with their tennis and their academics."

Baseball makes surprise finals run

By Aaron Kaplan
Staff Writer

The Big Red Varsity Baseball team came up one game short of winning the D-II AA state championship. In a deep playoff run that Coach Mike Anderson termed "surreal," the Big Red lost in the championship game to Christian Brothers.

The regular season was one of ups and downs for the MBA squad. After taking two wins to Ensworth in mid-march, the Big Red traveled to Arizona for its spring break trip, where the team recorded a 3-5 W/L record. Upon return, the Big Red recorded a loss against Centennial High School and a win against Franklin. After losing a series to Baylor, MBA beat Northridge High School from Chicago 11-1.

The Big Red went on to split a series with McCallie in early March and win a 3-game series against BGA 2-1. After a loss to Franklin and a 2-1 series victory over Father Ryan, MBA lost three straight to JPII. MBA subsequently lost to Brentwood Academy, defeated Ensworth, then resumed their series against BA, splitting the last two games and losing the series 1-2. According to Coach Anderson, the regular season was "a rollercoaster of emotions and outcomes," its low point the series-sweep loss to JPII.

In the playoffs, MBA began by winning two consecutive games against St. Benedict, then two against Brentwood Academy. After a loss to MUS, the Big Red defeated JPII and then MUS in a rematch. On May 23rd, MBA squared off against Christian Brothers in the first game of the state championship, winning 12-6. Later that day, the Big Red lost 13-



MASS OF HUMANITY: The baseball team celebrates a big win over the top seed Brentwood Academy by piling on. And on. And on.

3, thus concluding their season. Coach Anderson defined this year's team as "hard-working, dedicated, and tenacious," and remarked that the highlight of the regular season was "watching the players grow into a great team and building great chemistry." This year's team was led by seniors Will Campbell, Dallas Gibson, Jody Gorham,

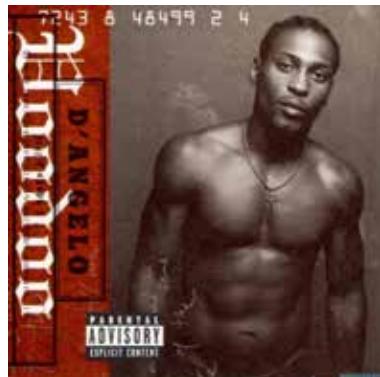
Penn Murfee, Vince Panvini, and Jack Rhodes.

This season was the baseball team's first with Coach Anderson at the helm. Regarding his first season as head coach, Anderson said, "I loved this year. These guys were unreal. They did everything that I asked them to do with the best of effort." As far as next year is

concerned he told me that we should look forward to "hopefully a lot of the same." The team will bring back eleven seniors and expects the underclassmen to continue playing a pivotal role in the team's success.

RETURNS AND BEGINNINGS

D'Angelo's rebirth and the alt-R&B renaissance



GUARDIAN D'ANGEL: *The recent Alt- R&B tsunami finds both its roots and sound in D'Angelo, a man whose triumphant return presaged the movement.*

By Tarun Mallipeddi
Opinions Editor

Last year on a sweltering night in Manchester, the Godfather of a genre finally returned to the realm of the living. It would be great if I were referring to a resurrected James Brown performing a set, though hologram James Brown is welcome anywhere as far as I'm concerned (Hologram people, get on that). I'm referring to a star-studded superjam arranged by Questlove of the Roots which boasted as its crown jewel the incomparable D'Angelo. If you're unfamiliar with his work, it's no fault of your own. Ever since the 2000 release of his certified platinum classic *Voodoo*, D'Angelo has been a bona fide hermit. His collapse on the back end of his success was a drug-ridden spiral that psychologically destroyed him. The legendary Bonnaroo set marked the first time he had performed on these shores in a decade.

D'Angelo's reappearance preceded a massive boom in Alt-R&B, a moodier subdivision of the genre pioneered by Ray Charles, mastered by Marvin Gaye and eventually coopted by the Neosoul movement of the 90's and early 2000's. Just a month after D'Angelo resurfaced in Manchester, a talented singer from New Orleans had a tumultuous week. Frank Ocean, ostensibly of the merry group of

ADD homophobes OFWGKTA, released a monster of a tumblr post which revealed that his first love had been a man. This, in the decade since D'Angelo's disappearance, had become an impossibility in mainstream R&B. The genre had become a conduit for misogynistic, autotuned club songs in the years since the dark navel-gazing of *Voodoo*. The idea that the music could be anything besides banal was confined to underground artists like Bilal – a talented vocalist who never achieved the success of his less unsettling contemporaries like Usher.

Within the month between the resurrection of D'Angelo and Frank Ocean's tumblr revelation, the groundwork was laid for a glorious revolution in Alt-R&B. Frank Ocean released his major label debut within a week of his tumblr bomb to massive acclaim. *Channel Orange* drew critical accolades and, more importantly, comparisons to classics of the Rhythm and Blues canon, even *Voodoo*. It helped that *Channel Orange* went certified gold, and established overall that it was possible to make R&B introspective and stirring again in line with Marvin Gaye's *What's Going on?*

On the heels of *Channel Orange*'s success, Los Angeles-born Miguel released his *Kaleidoscope Dream*. Miguel was the test case for the Alt-R&B movement. 2010's *All I Want is You* was both underrated and

undersold. Critics loved it, but the public was not ready for its hazy, unsettling sound. *Dream*, however, exploded with very little difference in sound. The evolution was not on Miguel's end of the equation, but the listeners had adjusted to a new paradigm.

The most astounding commercial success of the subgenre's explosion has been that of the Weeknd. His *Trilogy*, a collection of three free mixtapes, went platinum just last week. It's cool to be dark in R&B again. Sonically, the Weeknd has the most in common with D'Angelo of the modern R&B revolutionaries. His voice lacks a lot of the low-end growl which gave D'Angelo range, but he uses a similar nasal falsetto to balance deep instruments.

It is no coincidence that D'Angelo was the harbinger of this Alt-pocalypse. His music and subsequent meltdown have more in common with this current alternative crop than the music before his second coming. The trend toward a form of popular, marketable Rhythm and Blues that embraces both sensuality and sensitivity, that embraces the rhythm *and* the blues is an incredible, refreshing return to form. Even the most lighthearted of the new trio, Miguel, is occasionally byzantine, even scary, on *Dream*.

The movement is ultimately heading toward a more intense, rewarding listening experience, something that

D'Angelo certainly accomplished and that the triumvirate of young singers has proven is within its capability. The recent renaissance has been swift and open - each successive artist has interpreted the medium with a special spin or nuance. The music becomes an extension of the artist's soul. The individual personalities in the movement have the largest say in where it goes from here. Each has his own demons. All of them readily discuss their issues, whether on the internet or in lyric. Hopefully they add to their understanding of D'Angelo's music a resolution to remain true to self compared to their crossover contemporaries. The climate has adjusted to their form of the genre; the question becomes whether they can remain in the spotlight and bravely push the music forward. Can Alt-R&B hold up under the stress, or will it retreat like D'Angelo, only returning after a painfully long hiatus?

Appropriately enough, D'Angelo's comeback tour (he will play Austin City Limits this coming November) has yielded rumors of a comeback album. It's almost better that he has been absent these last 10 years; in the space he left, his influence took hold. We are now organically ready for another D'Angelo album. And with all of the young talent surrounding him, it's thankfully going to be more of the same.

THE “MEH” GATSBY



GIVE ME YOUR ANSWER, DO: *The lovely Carey Mulligan and Leonardo DiCaprio both turn in respectable performances in The Great Gatsby, but the acting was not the problem with Luhrman's hackneyed take on the classic novel.*

By Lucas Littlejohn
Entertainment Editor

I've never had more mixed feelings about anything in my life than I had about the new film rendition of F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* by director Baz Luhrmann. Armed with 21st-century technology, did the esteemed director of *Romeo + Juliet* and *Moulin Rouge* do the novel the justice it deserves? The answer is no. Not a resounding no, just a no.

Baz Luhrmann is known for his experimental, over-the-top style. With *Gatsby*, he took experimental and over-the-top to an entirely new level. Certain stylistic elements of the movie worked outstandingly well, but many of them fell flat.

For example, the music of the movie was one aspect that had Gatsby fans and film critics most anxious. Instead of a slate of jazz pieces filling the entirety of the film and staying loyal to the contemporary 1920's storyline, Luhrmann partnered with Jay-Z to create his own modern soundtrack featuring the likes of dubstep, dance, and rap from today's pop artists including Lana Del Ray, Florence + the Machine, The xx, and Flux Pavilion. The music flowed seamlessly between jazz and the modern soundtrack, giving the audience an idea of America's energetic and zealous reaction to jazz, a brand new style emerging in the '20's.

The experimental element of music in Gatsby works fantastically. It makes the party scenes that much more real and the emotional drama that much more poignant. There is something of a shock factor to hearing "I Can't Stop" in a scene set in a 1920's apartment. One

would also find it difficult to swing dance to certain selections from the Gatsby playlist. Nonetheless, the music did give the audience the sense of energy and excitement that was intrinsic to the Jazz Age.

However, the ubiquitous use of CGI (computer-generated imagery) creates such ridiculous melodrama as to make Luhrmann seem the designer of a parody on a more earth-bound edition of the movie. Seriously. There are countless instances where CGI creates a wholly unnecessary effect, dramatically amplifies a plot element, or forces one of the book's symbols down the throats of the audience. The camera does not pan between shots, it soars to the location of the following scene as if on a magic carpet; as Gatsby on his porch tells Nick the true story of his life, he looks up and his lover's face appears in the clouds; after being struck by the car, Myrtle's body literally flies up to the level of the billboard containing the eyes of Dr. TJ Eckleburg, which the screenplay does not hesitate to tell us multiple times are "the eyes of God" (really, can you make a symbol any more obvious, Mr. Luhrmann?). Sometimes it's nearly impossible to differentiate between what is animated and what is reality. Watch the movie to give yourself any number more examples.

Furthermore, the movie's strict adherence to the specific language of the novel and Luhrmann's willingness to bend the story to his liking is a paradox in itself. In addition to symbolism, F. Scott Fitzgerald's language as lifted directly from the book is another element of the film which feels completely forced. The often words appear in a flurry on the screen as narrator Nick

Carraway speaks them. The problem with inserting the exact wording of the book into the movie is that the audience knows it's straight from the story. There's no time nor space to let Fitzgerald's beautiful and delicate sentences proliferate in the minds of the audience members as they do when one actually reads the book. The words are thrust upon the audience in the context of Luhrmann's story, a visual and auditory experience, rather than in the story created by the mind of the reader. The result? On the big screen Fitzgerald's words become shallow and pompous; hearing Toby McGuire "read" *The Great Gatsby* is like listening to the writing exercises of an over-zealous English-major hopeful equipped with a good thesaurus. I honestly think this element of the movie will, sadly, turn people off from reading the book.

Just so I'm not misunderstood, the acting in the film certainly wasn't the problem. Those who are fans of Leonardo DeCaprio will be more than happy to see another stellar performance from the almost Academy Award-winning actor. DeCaprio's charisma is matched well into the role of Gatsby, but the actor also manages to capture some of the more subtle nuances of Gatsby's character. Gatsby can be nervous, excited, uncomfortable, and enraged at different moments in the story. This much was portrayed accurately. Some over-zealous critics may comment on the fact that Decaprio was *too* likeable as Gatsby, and thus mis-portrayed the role, but I don't believe this is the case.

For those who are sticklers for plot details, one glaringly obvious inaccuracy is the fact that the entire movie is told from Nick Carraway's point of view within a sanitarium. This plot device

is purely conjecture by the movie to help rectify some of the unclear aspects of the narrative. However, the most frustrating change in the storytelling occurred in the penultimate scene when the telephone is used to create added tension for the sake of a dramatic conclusion. This tactic is somewhat of a betrayal of Fitzgerald's stylistic portrayal of events. The ending of *The Great Gatsby* in its written form sort of fades off, leaving the reader with a profound sense of emptiness. Of course, profound feelings of emptiness don't exactly sell blockbusters. As a result, the book-to-movie viewers will feel an excess of drama injected into certain scenes.

However, Luhrmann's work must be seen in comparison to the 1974 version of the film, which suffered criticism for being emotionally inaccurate, in that the movie came off as unemotional. In a sense, Luhrmann's work can be seen as a stretch to avoid the mistakes of his predecessor. Of course, the line has to be drawn at some point between aspects that are emotionally constructive and those marred by excess frivolity. What works and what doesn't. That much must be up to the individual to decide for himself. Regardless, Luhrmann's film does have a significant amount of emotion in it; the only question remains whether it is simply too much.

Everyone who's read *The Great Gatsby* should at least see Luhrmann's version of the story. The party scenes as well as the casting – minus Toby McGuire, obviously – salvage some of the mess Luhrmann has made with CGI and using exact wording from the book. That *Gatsby* is my favorite book saves the movie for me personally from being a total flop as well.

Going Guerillas

Kanye West and the new wave of hip-hop marketing



THIS IS HAPPENING: *Kanye and his team of high-art hip-hoppers have taken a shall we say, unorthodox course to promote his sixth studio effort - Yeezus*

By John Higham
Staff Writer

In a move that can be referred to as sacrilegious or typical depending on perspective, Kanye West has revealed the title of his 6th studio album : *Yeezus*. This is not out of character for our braggadocious friend - both the polarizing nature of the choice (i.e. declaring himself tantamount to the son of God) and the self-assured swagger of it (i.e. declaring himself tantamount to the son of God). This much was to be expected, especially after Kanye spent the Met Gala shouting "I am a God." Kanye is in an undeniably steezy place right now, but the surprising part of the lead up to the June 18th release date was how quiet it was on Kanye's end.

As album promotion goes, Kanye usually likes making noise. He works the age old forces of hype in his favor. That hype is typically built around releasing traditional singles in a (more or less) traditional fashion - a song is released, it gets radio play and it builds buzz. The first time he broke with the established way of promoting was for *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* - the G.O.O.D. Fridays series was incredibly successful in generating excitement for the album and determining what "worked" about certain songs. It was a novel approach and it inspired countless spinoffs as struggling rappers flooded the internet with subpar content on a weekly basis. No matter how new or different it may be, the idea behind G.O.O.D. Fridays was familiar- be present and hustle.

The strange thing about the lead up to *Yeezus* thus far has been the sporadic silence. Kanye has been, by his standards, hermetic. The tangible actions have been few and strange: he tweeted the release date with no context (some thought it was a due

date, not a release date), he appeared on Saturday Night Live, and Kim Kardashian tweeted the high art album cover – all rather tame. The most fascinating moment of the campaign, however, reveals the most about its intent. On the night of Friday, May 17, on sixty-six buildings across the globe (Wrigley Field, a Prada store, a few random brownstones in Brooklyn) Kanye's minions set up projections of his face performing "New Slaves," a quasi-single from the album. At that point, the relative silence made sense. When the projections began, people pulled out camera phones, tweeted and Facebooked and blogged endlessly about what they had seen. Hundreds of different YouTube videos of the scenes surfaced from all around the globe.

The internet was losing its collective cool over an album that we knew next to nothing about just because Kanye had put his face on the side of a few buildings. There was nothing official or conventional about it- but the buzz still came. The logic became clear in the madness - it was an exercise in guerilla marketing from the biggest hip-hop star on earth. Not that guerilla marketing is anything new, but it is for both Kanye and rap mega-stars in general. Kanye's album promotion strategy only a month out from his release has been glorified street art run through social media and legitimized by a few television appearances. In the process, *Yeezus* has become a hip-hop Bigfoot. The torrent of news and rumors surrounding the album is self-sustaining, and without a set PR strategy to calm the storm, the myth of *Yeezus* just gets bigger and bigger. It's the *Detox* effect but in reverse - instead of becoming more distant, the next Kanye album gets closer and more tangible as it moves further from reality in the vacuum of the internet.

Whether intentional or not, that



may be the best way to follow *MBDTF*, Kanye using the power of his position to let the hype build on its own off the strength of reputation. The build up is based, not on the music, but on the idea of the music which is as well-conceived as an album promotion

scheme has been in a while. The outpouring of conjecture in the wake of this marketing scheme demonstrates both Kanye's elevated pop-cultural position, but also his infinite ability to remain the center of attention, even when he doesn't say a word.

**Buy Any Size Smoothie
Get One Smoothie of
Equal or Lesser Value FREE!**



4545 Harding Pike
Nashville, TN 37205
Phone (615) 383-7757

RESTRICTIONS:

- Expires April 29, 2013
- Original Coupons Only
- No copies or downloads
- Valid in Store Only
- Cannot be redeemed by combining two smalls/ mediums into a large



JET'S PIZZA®

LIFE IS SHORT. EAT BETTER PIZZA.®

GREEN HILLS

2010 Richard Jones Road

615-292-2020

Nashville's Best Pizza
3 Years Running!



WEST END

2323 Elliston Place

615-329-8600

**WE
DELIVER!**



DINE-IN AVAILABLE

**Buy One Large One-Topping Pizza
& Get a 10-Piece Jet's Bread® FREE!**



\$10.99

Expires 05/31/2012. Green Hills & West End locations only. Extra cheese, chicken and tax additional. Carry out only. Must present coupon. Only one coupon per order. Prices and offers subject to change without notice. MONICOV12011.

Bankrupt lacks punch



EAT A PEACH: Phoenix's minimalism might be emblematic of an average project that failed to capitalize on the group's early success

3.5 Waffles out of 5



By Steve Wood
Staff Writer

Characterized by heavy use of synthesizer and synth-like bass sounds, Phoenix's *Bankrupt*, released in April, contains more complex musical elements and opts for a more modern sound than earlier Phoenix albums. The new album does a much better job of diversifying the structure of songs than Phoenix's last album, *Wolfgang Amadeus Phoenix* (2009). Some songs are certainly more pop-influenced than older Phoenix songs, but the French popsters for the most part stick with their

alternative roots. The album's first track, "Entertainment," sounds the most like older Phoenix, with the rest of the album delving into slightly slower, more spacy songs.

One of the most interesting and, for me, disappointing, characteristics of *Bankrupt* is the absence of forceful, rhythmic drums and distinct melodic guitar. These features were present in Phoenix's first album, *United* (2000), and remained through their next effort, *Wolfgang Amadeus Phoenix*. With *Bankrupt*, Phoenix opts for a stronger emphasis on synthesizer sounds, as seen in track 7, "Chloroform," which has a strong hip-hop beat. I do enjoy listening to the spacy, laid-back synth tracks, but the songs are not exactly typical of Phoenix.

Another slightly annoying facet of *Bankrupt* is its tendency to build up in intensity as it prepares for some kind of climax which invariably ends up fizzling out. Both track 10, "Oblique City," and in some respects track 1, "Entertainment," are prime examples of this absence; each song builds intensity for an extended time, but the listener is let down at the end of the crescendo.

Though I do enjoy listening to *Bankrupt*, I prefer Phoenix's more rock influenced music with distinct guitar and drums over the spacy, well-mastered, synth-heavy music of the new album. *Bankrupt* is by no means a poor album; it is well-recorded and contains complexity and features not apparent in the simpler music of Phoenix's past, but it does not succeed in capturing Phoenix's greatest strengths as did their previous albums.

SignsFirst

Banners **Post & Panel**

Vehicle Wraps

Contact us today for all your sign and graphics needs!

615.297.5681
710 Berry Road
www.signsfirst1.com

Vampire Weekend ages into Modernity



AND EZRA MAN A KING: Vampire Weekend proved they might be around for a while, reworking their formula on *Modern Vampires*

SHORT TAKE

- Steps away from the OCD end-rhyme of *Contra* and *Vampire Weekend* and towards a more freeflowing lyric
- Less "fun" than previous efforts (relatively speaking)
- Sets a strong tone for the band's growth into the future while still leaving room to grow

By Lucas Littlejohn
Entertainment Editor

Ezra Koenig and the rest of the Vampire Weekend crew are no longer the youthful Ivy League pop rockers everyone has come to know them as, and the proof comes in the form of their most recent album, *Modern Vampires of the City*.

If you listen through *Modern Vampires* expecting to hear the giddy synth and pop guitar of *Contra* (2010) or the straight simplicity of *Vampire Weekend* (2008), you will hear neither. VW has certainly grown up in the past three years—growth that is reflected in the maturity of the sound of *Modern Vampires*.

The band has shed many of the more exotic instruments and synth of their previous efforts. Whereas their first two albums were characterized by tight, clean rhythms, the sound of the new album is noticeably looser. This change, a product of grittier drum preferences and the layering of more sounds, like in the single "Diane

4.5 Waffles out of 5



Young," seems to represent a questioning of the essence of their music rather than a pursuit of rhythmic perfection.

Many of those who liked the bubbly-ness of *Contra* could find this new sound to be a sacrifice of what has made VW so great in the first place, and even a less intimate experience for the listener. It's true, *Modern Vampires* is less "fun" than the past two albums. At first glance, there's less Vampire Weekend than ever before, meaning less quirkiness, less drama, less whimsy.

However, *Modern Vampires* reaches its juicy potential in the way it plays on one's emotions. The entire album is an exercise in creating a kind of desire for the listener, and either suppressing that desire, fulfilling it, or leading him on for more. For example, the bare rhythms and soaring vocals of the haunting first track, "Obvious Bicycle," tempt the listener, always implying VW will break out into some aggressive and epic climax but never doing it. Then transitioning into the foot-stomping "Unbelievers," the desire created by the first track is fulfilled. The twinkling Baroque sounds of "Step" and sentimental violin of "Don't Lie" parallel the inventive use of instruments of the past two albums, even within similar rhythms and harmonies, but they are within the context of an entirely more mature sound.

I understand the need to grow up, Ezra. I'm not worried about it, but just remember not to grow up too much.

TANGLED UP IN BLUTH

The triumphant return of Arrested Development

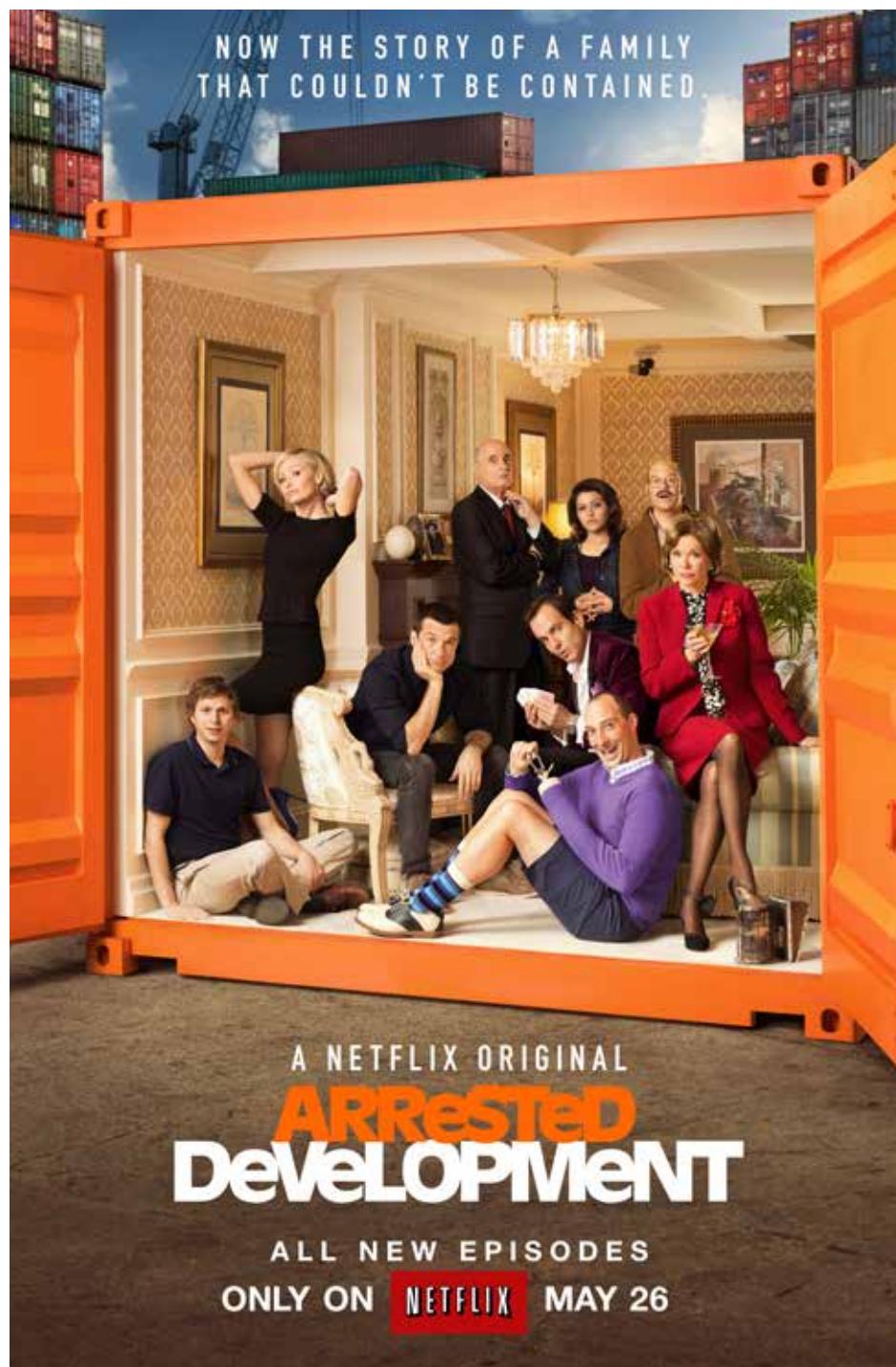
By Armand Jhala
Staff Writer

After endless misleads, false rumors, and illusions regarding the revival of the cult-classic-gone-mainstream television show *Arrested Development*, fans across the world were delighted when filming of a fourth season began on August 7, 2012. Over the next few months, snippets of information and heartwarming cast reunion photos dropped frequently enough to keep fans rabidly awaiting the eventual release date of May 26, which couldn't come too soon.

Unlike most television programs, these fifteen new episodes all debuted at 12:01 a.m. PST on Netflix and were available for streaming to those with Netflix accounts immediately. While there could be an entire article written about the growing consensus that this will be the way much television will air in the future, evidenced by the immediate success of other Netflix ventures released in the same manner such as *House of Cards*, suffice it to say that this format worked for *Arrested Development* by tapping into the sentiments of the droves of diehard fans who sat down (often with a cohort of close friends, as I did) on the Sunday before Memorial Day to binge-watch the 8 hours of television. The material would have amounted to a full season if each episode were limited to the standard twenty-one minutes of most prime time sitcoms, but it's unclear whether the new episodes would have been as successful as they were had they been released over the usual span of eight months, due to inevitable viewer attrition and more difficulty building up hype without one all-encompassing release event.

Told in a *Rashomon*-esque style of multiple viewings of the same events, each episode focuses on a different character, following his or her life since the series left off. As the stories of the characters interweave, the viewer is given new perspectives of the same scene, often up to five times. While ultimately rewarding, this style creates an experience that is in many cases slow to get off the ground, as the first episode or two is built more on setting up future storylines than fleshing out anything right then and there. Additionally, with some exceptions, by the third or fourth viewing of the same scene it begins to become tiresome and, as much as I hate to ascribe this label to *Arrested Development*, boring.

The other major drawback of these new episodes is the decision to focus each episode on a single character. One of the best parts of the original series was the terrific ensemble cast, ten actors and actresses who played off each other beautifully and truly created a sense of a dysfunctional, lying, cheating family that nevertheless maintained a whole lot of love. Each episode had a main plot with one or two subplots running through it simultaneously so that in most cases the entire cast was used to its



GOBIAS SOME NETFLIX: *The revival of Arrested Development has been heralded as a proud moment for all involved. The show has deep-set roots in the modern television landscape. The 15 new episodes are nothing if not excellent.*

full effectiveness in each episode. The fourth season by comparison either has ten main plotlines with no subplots, or something like twenty subplots with no main plotline; I couldn't tell which was the actual case. Either way, it ultimately creates a situation in which, despite the interwoven narrative over the season as a whole, each episode in itself relies almost entirely upon one character. The thirty-minute runtime of each episode ends up being a long time for these actors to carry it by themselves and robs the series of the sense of family we fell in love with originally. In American television, where you can't turn around without the newest sitcom family being described as dysfunctional, the Bluths were truly an awful family that, true to form, could not come close to functioning, and it's this family that we miss so dearly in these new episodes.

In fact, whether it's the brokenness of the family or the multiple plot points left dangling (Marky Bark? Lucille 2? Divorce? Bees?), these episodes feel far more like a prologue to something greater than the cathartic release many were expecting. This could be a good sign- it could be an indicator that more material, whether in the form of a movie or another season, is a virtual guarantee; that's certainly what I'm placing my money on. There's the far more disheartening possibility, though fortunately less likely, that despite the best intentions of the cast and crew, what we saw yesterday could be the end of *Arrested Development*, though I don't believe it.

That having been said, now that the negatives are out of the way, take heed of one simple fact, dear reader: the fourth season of *Arrested Development* is a masterpiece. While stagnant in places,

the early episodes are layered with enough top-notch jokes to keep them moving and keep the viewer interested. While relying on one cast member to carry each episode would have been a mistake in almost any other show, these superb actors pull it off with aplomb. Coming away from the season after one viewing, one is left in amazement at the amount of time and effort put into constructing this narrative that is honestly packed with more intricacies, Easter eggs, and questions left unanswered until future episodes than any television show I've ever seen (and this is coming from an avid fan of *Lost*).

The back half of the season in particular is very impressive. The different threads of the story coalesce into an increasingly clear picture at the same time that the jokes begin to hit home to an even greater extent. It doesn't hurt that two GOB episodes, the Maeby episode, and a Tobias episode are included in the last eight episodes of the fifteen. On top of that, many of the scenes that seemed incomplete or lacking focus in the first few episodes are revisited in a way that makes them a highlight of the episode; in particular I'm thinking of a family meeting in the Bluth penthouse in which it's revealed that the unnamed girlfriend of GOB has been crouching in the corner the entire time.

The fourth season of *Arrested Development* is not the same show that went off the air seven years ago, so much so that calling it a fourth season at all implies a thematic and stylistic continuity that just isn't there. In my lay opinion, this fallacious mindset is what created much of the disappointment with the new episodes in the first place. Many went into it expecting a recreation of the program they had loved so dearly, but any attempt at making the exact same show could never have lived up to the bar set by the first three seasons, and I'm sure that Mitch Hurwitz and Co. knew this. They chose to make an *Arrested Development* 2.0, if you will, one that recycled old tropes from the previous seasons to be sure, while also building something new that could stand on its own merits rather than having to harken back to its original greatness. That is what should be taken away from these new episodes. No, this isn't the same *Arrested Development* you remember, nor should it be. Though it will almost certainly never live up to the original in the eyes of history, I dare say that the new season of *Arrested Development* is in many ways a more impressive show than its predecessor. No, *Futurama*, *Parks and Recreation*, and *American Dad* weren't as groundbreaking and revolutionary as *The Simpsons*, *The Office*, and *Family Guy*, but in my opinion, they were each better than the shows that preceded them. The 15 new episodes of *Arrested Development* fall into the same category, and ultimately I think that's the lens through which they should be viewed.

Before the class of 2013 heads out into the great unknown, *The Bell Ringer* would like to bring them these sage words from American's favorite lion hunter

THE MAN IN THE ARENA

